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Tajikistan's Nabiyev Travels to Leninabad Oblast

Recently resigned Tajikistan President Rakhman Nabiyev, reported on 8 September to be under house arrest, has apparently "left for Khubzhand in Leninabad Oblast," according to Russian television. Sources in Dushanbe have denied rumors that Nabiyev has been killed.

Georgian Leader Shevardnadze Says Abkhazians Violating Cease-Fire

At a State Council session on Abkhazia yesterday, Georgian leader Shevardnadze said "the agreements which had been reached on a cease-fire were being grossly violated by the Abkhazians," according to INTERFAX. "The provocation," he stressed, "is continuing with the aim of breaking up the Moscow agreements, and this spells disaster for the Abkhazians.... All of this could lead to a new Caucasian war."

CIS Foreign Ministers Approve Bishkek Agenda, Accord With PRC

The foreign ministers of Russia, Belarus, and Moldova and representatives from the other CIS states met in Minsk on 8 June to discuss the agenda for the 25 September meeting of the CIS heads of state to be held in Bishkek. According to NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA, the ministers discussed an agenda of 13 documents, but about half of them were not recommended "because they were insufficiently prepared." Issues on it include "the question of the concept of the Commonwealth countries' collective military security, CIS nuclear strategy," and "the ratification of the Provision on the CIS Joint Armed Forces High Command." The paper, citing the Russian foreign minister's press service, adds that "the question of the preparation of the CIS statutes is unlikely to be definitively resolved even at the Bishkek meeting."

Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev and representatives of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan signed an agreement on the creation of a joint commission for talks with the Chinese Foreign Ministry on the border regime of these states and China. One of this commission's groups will discuss with the Chinese side "the problems involved in the mutual reduction of armaments in the border areas." Andrey Kozyrev told journalists that the agreement "has serious political significance." At a news conference after the end of the talks the participants "gave an extremely high assessment of the results of the conference."

Russia, Lithuania Agree on Troop Withdrawal

Russian President Yeltsin and Lithuanian leader Landsbergis signed three documents in Moscow yesterday, according to ITAR-TASS: "the timetable for the withdrawal of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation from Lithuania's territory, a protocol on the procedure for solving technical and organisational issues related to the pull-out of Russia's Armed Forces from the territory of the Lithuanian republic, and also an agreement on the rules of the conduct and functioning of large and small units that are being moved out." Yeltsin's press secretary stated the withdrawal of Russian troops from Lithuania "will be completed by August 31, 1993," noting that an interstate agreement was not signed because of "some technical elements that need additional study." Landsbergis called the agreements a "mutual achievement" that removes the "main obstacle" to Russian-Lithuanian relations.

Russia, Taiwan To Exchange Representative Offices

Taiwan and Russia have agreed to exchange "unofficial representative offices," reports Radio Rossii. According to Taiwan's Deputy Foreign Minister Chang, Taiwan will "in the near future" open offices in Moscow, St. Petersburg, and Vladivostok. Russia will open offices in Taipei and Kaohsiung. The offices "will be empowered to issue visas, and their staff will enjoy diplomatic immunity."

CIS Foreign Ministers Hold Meeting in Minsk

Recommend 13-Point Agenda

LD0809161692 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1400 GMT 8 Sep 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] A meeting of the foreign ministers of the Commonwealth countries opened in Minsk about two hours ago. The heads of the foreign policy departments are discussing issues related to preparations for the meeting of the council of CIS heads of state planned for 25 September in Bishkek.

[Correspondent P. Makritskiy] The foreign ministers and their plenipotentiary representatives held a routine meeting at the CIS headquarters. The conference was opened by Ivan Korotchenya, coordinator of the CIS working group.

Welcoming those taking part in the conference, Belarusian Foreign Minister Petr Kravchenko expressed the hope that constructive work will be carried out so that the efforts of the Commonwealth states will be directed toward creating effective mechanisms for cooperation in various economic fields and previously arranged policies.

Also taking part in the conference is Marshal of Aviation Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov, commander in chief of the CIS Joint Armed Forces.

[Begin Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev recording] The agenda that is now being recommended includes 13 points. It is very difficult to pick out the main ones; practically all of them are very important. The most essential thing is that, first, our disagreements have not been political or based on principle; instead there has been a discussion on the degree to which the issues are ready to be presented to the heads of state for consideration. Not a single issue caused doubt in its essentials. It is simply a matter of preparation.

The second important point is that the agenda of the heads of state in Bishkek embraces practically every sphere in the life of the Commonwealth. The linked issues are interesting, for instance the strengthening of the headquarters of the CIS Joint Armed Forces on the one hand and the creation of coordinating mechanisms to implement disarmament agreements on the other. Issues concerning close economic cooperation and further deepening the economic status—that is, the rules of the Commonwealth itself—are covered, and human rights issues have been included on the agenda. In sum, practically all aspects have been included.

It seems to me that these two circumstances indicate that the Bishkek heads of state meeting may become a major step on the path, not only toward ensuring that the Commonwealth exists and that it functions—this has already been demonstrated in Tashkent and in Moscow—but also toward ensuring that it functions smoothly. [end recording]

Four Sign Accord on China, Arms Cuts

LD0809124492 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1048 GMT 8 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] Minsk September 8 TASS—Plenipotentiary representatives of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia and Tajikistan signed here today an agreement on talks with China concerning border matters and mutual reduction of armed forces in the area of the border.

The representatives of these four states are now attending the CIS foreign ministers' conference, which opened here today.

Four To Hold Border Talks With PRC

LD0809164192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1557 GMT 8 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] Minsk September 8 TASS—"Agreements which were just signed here by four states of the Commonwealth of Independent States, on talks with China are of extreme importance," a high-ranking Russian diplomat who refused to be identified, told the ITAR-TASS news agency here on Tuesday [8 September].

The peculiar feature of these negotiations is that a joint delegation of four states—Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan—will hold talks with China for the first time. The agreements spell out principles to form the joint delegation of the four states and define conditions for their activities.

The border talks occupy an important place in relations between the four countries and the People's Republic of China, the diplomat continued. At the same time, he noted, the formation of a single delegation shows that the four states support the principle of continuity in settling border issues, the talks on which were started by the Soviet Union.

All the sides recognise agreements reached between the former USSR and China as the basis for such talks. In the past, the two sides achieved understandings on cutting armed forces and some other issues.

It is very important, the diplomat stressed, that the sides decided to use experience accumulated during the past talks in such a ticklish sphere as the settlement of border problems. This will enable the sides to settle justly the present problems between China and the four states.

"I'd like to note," the diplomat continued, "that an agreement was concluded last year on the eastern section of the border between Russia and China.

"As for the western section where China borders on Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, some issues have to be settled and presented for a final approval."

According to the diplomat, the states which have just signed the agreements, are ready to develop all-round relations with China, including those on border ties. The development of such contacts depends on the creation of infrastructure, which, in turn, needs a clear-cut demarcation of borders.

The signed agreements are "the threads connecting the four states of the Commonwealth." They are "threads of cooperation and unity working not for the disintegration of the Commonwealth but for stronger cooperation and mutual understanding between the Commonwealth states," the diplomat concluded.

Close Conference

LD0809171392 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1631 GMT 8 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] Minsk September 8 TASS—A conference of the CIS foreign ministers drew to an end in the Belarusian capital today. The plenipotentiary representatives of the CIS foreign policy establishments (Azerbaijan attended the conference as an observer) discussed the agenda of the forthcoming CIS summit due to open in Bishkek on September 25 and issues of coordination and interaction at the upcoming 47th U.N. General Assembly session in New York.

Speaking at a news briefing upon the completion of the conference, working group coordinator Ivan Korochenya emphasised that participants recommended to the heads of state addressing 13 issues and the heads of government—19. In his view, the conference was very substantive and constructive.

Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev said the absence of any political differences on all issues under discussion, specifically on issues of coordination, interaction and integration was typical of the conference.

Kozyrev on CIS Draft Charter

LD0809204392 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1800 GMT 8 Sep 92

[Report from Minsk by correspondent Leonid Sviridov on CIS foreign ministers' meeting on 8 September]

[Text] The CIS foreign ministers discussed the draft agenda of the upcoming 25 September meeting of heads of state and government in Bishkek. It was announced at a news conference, after outlining the draft agenda of the Bishkek summit, that 13 issues for discussion are being submitted to the heads of state in the capital of Kyrgyzstan, and 19 issues to the heads of government.

Answering journalists' questions, Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev noted that the pendulum of the CIS countries, which was moving apart, has come to a halt and has in fact started to move in the other direction, not in the sense of reviving the USSR and the old center, but in the sense of the appearance of a fundamentally new union of states.

The news conference lasted 15 minutes. Your correspondent then spoke to Andrey Kozyrev for a more detailed report. In an exclusive interview for Radio Rossii, the head Of Russia's foreign policy department commented on the draft charter of the CIS and stated that, I quote, this is not at all a simple question. Two interesting ideas were heard today. The first is that the charter is the pinnacle of all the work, and not the beginning. The CIS is already de facto functioning, so the charter may be a distinctive finale for the work on shaping the legal base and the mechanisms of the CIS.

The second idea heard in Minsk is that some states are in no particular rush to have a charter as a formalizing document and are not ready to go far enough in all things. However, there is a group of states that is ready to go far enough in formulating this charter. For this reason, said Andrey Kozyrev, we agreed to consider providing more flexible forms—not along the lines of the Kolkhoz scenario, when all states are made equal on the basis of who wishes to participate least. The most important thing now is to work out the form of joining the CIS charter that would make it possible to formulate the document itself in maximum terms, according to the upper plank of cooperation, but that would give states the opportunity of joining this cooperation.

The head of Russia's foreign policy department also noted that there were no fundamental political disagreements.

Shaposhnikov on Strategic Forces

LD0809214492 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 2000 GMT 8 Sep 92

[Report by L. Vilyuga in Minsk; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer] The problems of settling and preventing ethnic conflicts will clearly be the main subjects of debate at the council of heads of the CIS in Bishkek on 25 September. Today the Commonwealth foreign ministers held a meeting in Minsk to discuss details of the treaty on the basic principles for the fulfillment of interstate agreements and other problems of the member-states.

[Vilyuga] Discussion of the package of draft agreements, which is expected to be signed at the meeting of heads of

state and governments in Bishkek, was the main reason for the meeting of CIS foreign ministers in Minsk. Incidentally, there were only three ministers—those of Belarus, Russia, and Moldova—who appeared in the role of observer. The other republics were represented by their deputy ministers.

Armed Forces Commander Marshal Shaposhnikov, who is not losing hope of still reaching agreements on issues that have not been adopted at the upcoming meeting of the military in Moscow, was present at the meeting.

[Begin Shaposhnikov recording] Today I would like to say that the position of the Main Command, the position of the Russian leadership, and the position of the Belarus leadership coincide to the highest possible degree, and I don't think that there will be any great problems among us, particularly with Belarus. With the other states of the CIS, there are such problems—I say this frankly—and I am taking the opportunity of today's visit to bring them together as much as possible, especially since I have instructions from the Council of Ministers of Defense, and four ministers of defense in particular, to communicate with each leader of a state on whose territory strategic nuclear weapons are sited so that at Bishkek we will be able to propose some kind of maximum agreed variant on the status of the strategic forces. [end recording]

[Vilyuga] The news conference summed up the results of the Minsk talks. Thirteen questions for discussion by the heads of state and 19 for heads of governments have been tabled for the agenda at Bishkek.

Meeting Assessed

MK0909094292 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 9 Sep 92 pp 1,3

[Sergey Parkhomenko report under "CIS" rubric: "Flower of CIS Diplomacy Has Gathered in Minsk. Admittedly, Not In Its Entirety]

[Text] A routine session of Commonwealth countries' foreign ministers opened 8 September in Minsk.

However, only Russia, Belarus, and Moldova were represented by foreign ministers. The other states sent deputy ministers and other staffers from their diplomatic departments. Tajikistan is represented at the meeting by Rustam Mirzoyev, the republic's permanent representative on the CIS working group.

The session's preliminary agenda contains 13 documents, which are to be examined for the meeting of CIS heads of state scheduled for 25 September in Bishkek. The group of military questions, which includes the question of the concept of the Commonwealth countries' collective military security, CIS nuclear strategy, and also the ratification of the Provision on the CIS Joint Armed Forces High Command, are of greatest interest. However, according to the Russian Foreign Minister's press service, the question of the preparation of the CIS statutes [ustav] is unlikely to be definitively resolved even at the Bishkek meeting.

Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev and the authorized representatives of the foreign policy departments of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan signed an agreement on the creation of a joint commission for talks with the Chinese Foreign Ministry on the border regime of these four Commonwealth states and China.

One of this commission's groups will discuss with the Chinese side the problems involved in the mutual reduction of armaments in the border areas. Andrey Kozyrev told journalists that the agreement signed also has serious political significance: "The important thing is that we are talking about cooperation in the protection of mutual interests on the external borders of the CIS." Minister Kozyrev also noted the fact that the agreement, in which Tajikistan participated, was signed at a time of serious political difficulties in that republic: "Whatever the new Tajik leadership is like, it, too, will be interested in protecting the external borders." According to a Foreign Ministry press service report, the talks involving the newly created commission should start soon, since back in July, when a Russian Foreign Ministry delegation took part in the recent ASEAN session, representatives of the Chinese foreign policy department demonstrated active interest in starting such talks.

At the final news conference the participants gave an extremely high assessment of the results of the conference.

Andrey Kozyrev said in particular: "We are now talking about a union of states which value their relations."

Of the 13 questions announced initially, around half were ultimately not recommended for the meeting of heads of state in Bishkek because they were insufficiently prepared. However, Kozyrev told journalists that at talks between representatives of Commonwealth countries now it is rare for individual questions to be rejected completely for purely political reasons. The question of the CIS statutes was discussed in the greatest detail. It can scarcely be said that sufficient progress has been made in this sphere. But, according to Kozyrev, it has become clear that the statutes must be the apex of all the legislative work carried out within the framework of the Commonwealth, and not the beginning of that work. Particularly since, as he noted, certain states are not expressing any desire to have a unified and all-embracing formalizing document. Therefore the task is to elaborate the possibility of "flexibly" adhering to the statutes and formulating for them a certain principle by means of which states could measure their share in the actions and documents of the Commonwealth.

Four States Envisage Economic Agreement

LD0809190192 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0900 GMT 8 Sep 92

[Text] The YEVRO-AZIYA information agency reports that according to Bishkek experts, Kazakhstan, Tatarstan, Bashkortostan, and Kyrgyzstan may soon sign a

quadripartite agreement. Experts believe that an alliance of Tatar and Bashkir oil and coal with Kazakh grain will allow these states to overtake Russia in the rate of economic stabilization and development of reforms. This process may be accelerated by the signing of a bilateral treaty between Moscow and Kazan, scheduled for October.

Conference Urges Forming Caucasian Confederation

OW0709074992 Moscow INTERFAX in English 0559 GMT 07 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] A round-table conference was held in Groznyy on Friday [4 September] and Saturday at the call of Chechniya's President Dzhokhar Dudayev. It proclaimed the need to form a confederation of Caucasian states and to "remove as soon as possible the troops of non-Caucasus countries from the Caucasus".

The 2-day debates culminated in creating the "Caucasus Home" which issued a declaration to express support for "the Caucasus peoples upholding their freedom and independence". The declaration was signed by the representatives of Azerbaijan, Armenia, Georgia, Abkhazia, Karachai, Cherkesia, Kabarda, Balkaria, Dagestan and Chechniya.

Participants in the conference issued a communique which urges "the peoples, states, public and religious organizations and associations, political parties and movements of the Caucasus to give comprehensive aid in the endeavors to create the "Caucasus Home" in which security and the possibility of independent development will be ensured for all peoples".

According to the document, all the parties involved in conflicts in the Caucasus must "immediately cease all military actions and begin to resolve their disputes by peaceful means". The "Caucasus Home" undertakes to act as a mediator.

The communique condemns "the military coup and criminal actions by the so-called State Council of Georgia led by Eduard Shevardnadze and by the leadership of Russia against the Georgian and Abkhazian peoples". Participants in the round-table conference denounced "the attempt to conduct illegal elections in Georgia". They demanded that "constitutional authority be restored in the republic at once, and that punitive forces be removed from Abkhazia".

The "Caucasus Home" demanded that successors to the former USSR "distribute fairly the material and other values, including arms and military equipment, between the Caucasus states and peoples".

The "Caucasus Home" reacted painfully to the Russian authorities' decision to cancel flights from Russia to Groznyy. A special statement issued in this connection maintains that "the Russian leadership, grossly trampling on international norms and rights, is doing all it can to prevent the Caucasus peoples from getting united". Participants in the conference demanded that Moscow stop its blockade at once, and expressed their solidarity with the people of Chechniya.

Conference on Russian Baltic Region Ends

LD0709185392 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0852 GMT 6 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Biryukov]

[Text] Svetlogorsk, Kaliningrad region, September 6 TASS—Participants in a two-day international conference held in this resort city have wound up an exchange of views on prospects for the development of Russia's Baltic region.

The conference was held by Russia's Foreign Policy Foundation which had invited 250 diplomats, scientists, bankers and businessmen from many European countries as well as the United States to this westernmost region of the country.

They discussed political, economic, scientific and cultural cooperation of the Baltic countries and Kaliningrad region as Russia's outpost and the establishment of a free economic zone in the region to attract large Western investments.

During debates, speakers recognised that this Russian territory situated in the heart of Europe, at the crossroads of trade routes between West and East elicits a great interest of Russian and foreign entrepreneurs.

However, the region's uncertain status, the lack of legal guarantees, the absence of customs, tax and other benefits do not promote their business activity. More than 250 joint enterprises, firms and branches of foreign companies do not practically operate at full capacity while their investments in the economy of the region are meagre.

Participants in the conference made a good deal of specific proposals to expedite market reforms in the territory and create the necessary conditions and mechanisms to quickly turn it into a kind of a Baltic Hong Kong.

Representatives of Russia's Foreign Policy Foundations said the conference will be followed by the opening of the Foundation's branch as well as an international research centre here to help realise the ideas proposed at the forum and the suggested projects.

Baltic Delegates on European Council, CSCE

LD0709162592 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 1730 GMT 6 Sep 92

[Text] The Estonian, Latvian, and Lithuanian delegations to the parliamentary assembly of the European Council came together at the Supreme Council on 6 September to coordinate and adopt a joint action plan for the delegations of the Baltic states. According to a resulting statement, the Baltic delegations will ask the European Council to set up a committee to deal directly

with the problems of the former Republics of the Soviet Union. Such a committee could help solve questions on, for example, the withdrawal of foreign troops from the Baltic states. It could also put political pressure on Russia to involve international experts in its talks with the Baltic states.

There were also discussions on the work of the Baltic delegations at the Baltic Assembly and at the parliamentary assembly of the CSCE.

ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 5 Sep

LD0509060192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0508 GMT 5 Sep 92

["Press Review"—ITAR-TASS headline]

[Text] Today's Moscow-based newspapers highlight issues connected with the settlement of the Abkhazian conflict, developments in other "hot spots" of the former Soviet Union and U.N. Secretary General Butrus Butrus Ghali's visit to Russia.

The SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA newspaper, commenting on the final document adopted by the Moscow meeting on putting an end to the Georgian-Abkhazian conflict held on Thursday [3 September], quotes Russian President Boris Yeltsin as saying that he was confident that all commitments, undertaken by the parties concerned under the document, would be fulfilled.

According to the document, all armed formations involved in the conflict are to cease fire and any use of force against each other beginning from 12 o'clock on September 5.

Commenting on the same problem, NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA expresses its sceptical attitude to the results of the Moscow meeting. According to the newspaper, the "Abkhazian side has not managed to achieve the fulfillment of their main demand, which had urged them to seek Moscow's mediation, that the troops of the Georgian State Council be withdrawn."

The newspaper gives a pessimistic forecast: "Russian peace keeping force is running a risk, in case a ceasefire agreement is violated, which is quite possible, of finding itself in a situation, similar to that of the U.N. peace-keeping force deployed in Bosnia and fired at from all sides."

The KRASNAYA ZVEZDA newspaper, commenting on the adopted document, says that "there are grounds for cautious optimism in the Georgian-Abkhazian conflict".

The KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA, touching upon the problem of missing people lost somewhere in Abkhazia and being searched for by their relatives, appeals to the Red Cross offices of the conflicting sides to help find out what has happened to the missing people.

Touching upon the developments on other conflict areas of the former Soviet Union, Moscow newspapers, and NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA, in particular, write that regrettably, despite the truce reached between Armenia and Azerbaijan, the war is going on.

According to Azeri sources, a protocol on a ceasefire signed in the Izhdevansky region of Armenia on September 3 with the mediation of representatives of the Kazakh president, will officially come into force on September 15.

The newspaper devotes much attention to the situation in Tajikistan, where the political struggle has brought the country to the verge of a civil war and many casualties were reported among civilians as a result of armed clashes.

The KRASNAYA ZVEZDA and a number of other newspapers in connection with the developments in Tajikistan published a statement made by Russian, Kyrgyz, Kazakh and Uzbek presidents calling on the government and leaders of political factions of the country, "to act under the circumstances being deeply conscious of their responsibility for the development of the situation in their country and the region as a whole."

The KOMSMOLSKAYA PRAVDA writes that the Tajik parliament and the government voiced no confidence in Tajik President Rakhman Nabiyev and demanded his resignation.

Commenting on U.N. Secretary General Butrus Butrus Ghali's visit to Moscow, newspapers pointed out that both Russian President Boris Yeltsin and the U.N. secretary general had proved to be reformers almost simultaneously.

The KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA writes that one of them, (Yeltsin) began the economic reform in Russia on January 2, 1992, while the other one began the reform in the United Nations on January 1, 1992.

Newspapers quote Butrus Ghali as saying in a confidential talk with Yeltsin that "without new Russia, without its help it would have been impossible to launch reforms in the United Nations."

Commenting on the success of the Russian president's talks with Butrus Ghali, NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA writes that the two leaders exchanged opinions on a large number of issues, from organisational and financial problems to problems of the development of the young Russian democracy.

Under the headline "The Memory of the Borodino Battle Is Important Today as Never Before," the KRAZNAYA ZVEZDA published an article devoted to the 180th anniversary of the Borodino battle, due on September 7, describing it as a "great people's exploit."

The article pointed out that Russia managed to defeat Napoleon and "liberate Europe from new slavery."

For 7 Sep

LD0809050992 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0448 GMT 7 Sep 92

["Press Review"—ITAR-TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow September 8 TASS—The situation in the "hot spots" of the country is the main subject in today's press. Newspapers focus on the situation in Tajikistan, primarily the resignation of Rakhman Nabiyev from the post of the republic's president.

"The tussle between Tajikistan's President Rakhman Nabiyev and the opposition has ended with the president's utter defeat," KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA writes in this connection.

The newspaper reports that the president was taken hostage by armed opposition groups at Dushanbe airport during an attempt to leave by air for his native city of Khodzhent. At the airport, an ultimatum in a demand for his resignation was delivered to him. The newspaper gives an evaluation of the event made by Tajikistan Parliament Chief Akbarsho Iskandarov in a KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA interview.

"Nabiyev really did not understand many things and did not orient himself amid developments. Nevertheless, such matters are just not resolved in such a manner," Iskandarov said.

"Nabiyev's resignation is an important step which will help stabilise the situation in the republic and will help expedite talks between the government and the pro-Nabiyev forces in Kulyab region," NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA (the independent newspaper) points out.

"In all probability, there will be no presidential elections in Tajikistan and the power in the republic will pass to the parliament, since complex inter-clan relations will not make it possible to elect such a president who would meet the interests of the residents of all regions and districts of Tajikistan."

"I consider it necessary to express hope that Russia, a great country and a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council, will continue to play an independent role in international affairs... The world needs you," U.N. Secretary-General Butrus Ghali said in an interview with KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA at the close of his visit to Russia.

"Japan welcomes President Yeltsin's visit as the first trip to our country by the head of a young democratic state—Russia," Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said in an interview with KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA.

"We do not demand ceding the age-old Russian territory by making use of Russia's present weakness. Japan's stand is based on a desire to assert the principles of legality and justice in relations between the two countries," Miyazawa said when touching upon the question of the four Kuril Islands.

A group of Russian scientists who are experts in history, law, the policy and economy of Japan as well as international relations in the Far East—have sent an open letter to President Boris Yeltsin on the eve of his visit to Tokyo.

The 19 scientists, who signed the document published in SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA, believe that "any connivance at Japan's claims to the south Kuril Islands, including Kunashir, Iturup, Habomai and Shikotan, would be illegitimate either from historic, legal, political or economic point of view."

"The security and national interests of Russia, not abstract, vague and subjective judgements about 'legality and justice', should become the main orienting point for you at Tokyo talks," the letter points out.

A monetary and financial stabilisation is a very important and essential task but it is unattainable at the present stage, at least in the scope planned by the government, Yevgeniy Yasin, Dr. of science (economics) and director of the expert institute of the Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs, told the newspaper TRUD.

"A soldier can lose or win a single combat, a general may lose or win a concrete operation. A war as a whole is won or lost by politicians. It was they who lost the war in Afghanistan, and in many respects, too," Kim Tsagolov, former military adviser of the Soviet Union in Afghanistan, told NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA, analysing the history of the Afghan conflict.

PRAVDA, at the request of an "organising committee for the preparation of the 20th conference of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU)," carries the text of a draft programme statement "for socialism and for the unity of communists."

"In the face of the country's economic and political collapse, the moral humiliation of the Soviet people and the trampling on the social rights gained by them, the communists regard a further delay as impossible and resume the activities of the CPSU," the introductory part of the draft statement points out.

Yeltsin, Landsbergis Agree on Troop Withdrawal

LD0809162192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1547 GMT 8 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Lyudmila Aleksandrova and Gennadiy Talalayev]

[Text] Moscow September 8 TASS—A one-to-one meeting between Russian President Boris Yeltsin and Lithuanian Parliament Leader Vytautas Landsbergis was held in the Kremlin today. The two then signed Russian-Lithuanian documents. However, the expected signing of an inter-state agreement between Russia and Lithuania did not take place.

In this regard, the press secretary of the Russian president Vyacheslav Kostikov said Yeltsin asked to tell journalists that the agreement has not yet been finalised and some details need to be specified. Work on the agreement continues and about a month will be needed to sign it. No political problems arise in this connection, Kostikov noted. Simply there are some technical elements that need additional study.

At a press conference upon the results of the Kremlin meeting, Kostikov told journalists today that the withdrawal of Russian troops from Lithuania will be completed by August 31, 1993.

At this meeting, Russian Defence Minister Pavel Grachev and Lithuanian Minister for the Protection of the Territory Audrjus Budkjavicus signed three documents—the timetable for the withdrawal of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation from Lithuania's territory, a protocol on the procedure for solving technical and organisational issues related to the pull-out of Russia's Armed Forces from the territory of the Lithuanian republic and also an agreement on the rules of the conduct and functioning of large and small units that are being moved out.

Deputy Foreign Minister Vitaliy Churkin and Lithuanian Foreign Minister Algirdas Saudargas signed an agreement on the issues of jurisdiction as regards persons who serve with the Russian Armed Forces that are moved out of Lithuania and members of their families, an agreement on the rules of settling property and housing issues of servicemen and other persons in the forces that are being pulled out of the Lithuanian republic, and also an agreement to settle social issues concerning persons in the Armed Forces that are being withdrawn.

Landsbergis Comments

LD0809181892 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1644 GMT 8 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Aleksandr Krasulin]

[Text] Moscow, 8 Sep (ITAR-TASS)—The accords reached today in the course of the conversation with Boris Yeltsin, and the documents signed by the defense ministers of the two countries are a mutual achievement, Vytautas Landsbergis, chairman of the Supreme Council of Lithuania, stated today at a news conference at the Lithuanian Embassy in Moscow.

Both Lithuania and Russia, he noted, are striving to strengthen trust and expand cooperation. The main obstacle to this—the presence of Russian troops on the territory of Lithuania—will be eliminated as a result of today's signing of the documents on their withdrawal, which should be concluded by the end of August next year. The political agreement related to the withdrawal of Russian troops will be improved, and the next meeting on this issue is planned for the beginning of October, Vytautas Landsbergis said.

Answering journalists' questions as to why the interstate agreement between the two countries had not been signed, the head of the Lithuanian parliament said that in Boris Yeltsin's opinion this document needs more work. "Yeltsin showed me the draft text of this document. A fair number of amendments were made by the Russian president", he noted.

Touching on the issues of economic cooperation between the two countries, Vytautas Landsbergis reported that the work on relevant agreements is already proceeding, and it is quite possible that they will be initialled or even signed this month.

Landsbergis News Conference

LD0909101192

[Editorial Report] Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian at 0705 GMT on 9 September carries a 45-minute live news conference at which Lithuanian Supreme Council Chairman Vytautas Landsbergis gives an account of the results of the 8 September Moscow talks on troop withdrawals. The news conference is moderated by Supreme Council press spokesman Audrius Azubalis, who announces that Ceslovas Stankevicius, deputy chairman of the Lithuanian Supreme Council and head of the Lithuanian delegation which conducted the negotiations with Russia, will answer journalists' questions.

Landsbergis begins by saying that the issue of the troops' withdrawal from Lithuania was raised back in the summer of 1989 when 1.5 million signatures were collected demanding the withdrawal. He adds that the issue became very pressing after the coup in Russia, and especially after the world community's recognition of the independence of Lithuania and of the other Baltic states. Landsbergis goes on to say that "on the other hand our relations with Russia have always been good and must remain such in the future and this obstacle, the hotbed of tension, the hotbed of instability and after all the source of the economic and ecological damage, should be eliminated. There are no doubts about that. This has not been argued against anywhere in the world or in the Russian leadership." He continues by saying that, in spite of all these evident and incontestable arguments for the troops' withdrawal, it was not easy to reach an agreement

on this. He notes all the efforts made by Lithuanian diplomats at home and abroad to exert pressure on Russia to withdraw its troops from Lithuania.

Landsbergis says that yesterday it became clear that some aspects in the draft documents to be signed raised questions and had to be subjected to coordination and discussions again. He adds: "It was President Yeltsin's idea—which he had suggested earlier during our telephone conversation which I have already mentioned—that the agreed timetable should be signed by both ministers and that this should be done before our signing of the political agreement. Concerning the texts of the documents, not everything was entirely clear yesterday. Thanks to certain efforts made and with ministers and the members of the delegations working—I also had to take certain steps—it was ensured that the timetable is coordinated and ready for signing, and in fact it was signed during the meeting in the Kremlin."

Next, Landsbergis says that the signing of these documents was a proof that "both the states are indeed interested in the normalization and development of good-neighborly relations." He goes on to explain what documents were signed, saying that the first document dealt with the order and procedure of the withdrawal:

"The document specifically regulates where the withdrawing units should be deployed before their pullout, what these units can do inside the territories, the barracks they temporarily occupied, and what they cannot do outside the territories, the barracks they occupied."

Describing a conversation that he had with Boris Yeltsin, in which they exchanged opinions on the withdrawal agreement, Landsbergis says "President Yeltsin saw, and indicated to me, various aspects that were unacceptable to him or which had not been sufficiently well prepared. We attempted to discuss one or two of those instances right there. I thought that perhaps this was possible, or perhaps if we had more time then it would have been possible to discuss them there and then. However, he indicated that the remarks were rather numerous and that there was indeed not enough time. Therefore, we agreed that the text of the draft would be subject to further review before we meet on 1 or 2 October in Moscow." Landsbergis adds that the documents signed indicated that the Russian troops should be completely pulled out not later than by the end of August 1993. At this point questions are invited from journalists.

A Lithuanian Radio journalist asks: "Esteemed chairman, what is your opinion on the fact that Lithuania will construct houses for the Russian servicemen right next to the Lithuanian border in Kaliningrad?"

Landsbergis replies: "I can only interpret this as an order received by our construction company and as an agreement to carry out this order. The construction of houses is a commercial matter, and I do not think that any construction company in the world would consider who will live in the houses they build: civilians or servicemen." The next question is by an unidentified journalist who requests more specific information on the remarks made by Boris Yeltsin on the political agreement and why the next summit is to be held in Moscow again and not in Vilnius.

Landsbergis says: "Perhaps I could reveal this to you as a secret, strictly confidentially, after you have sworn that you will not tell anybody anything that must remain undisclosed while the negotiations are still under way. However, perhaps this is not worth doing. Why in Moscow? We did not discuss this as an issue."

A BBC journalist asks whether the other Baltic states would not accuse Lithuania of having left them in an uncertain position.

Landsbergis replies: "The withdrawal of the troops from the Baltic countries will be a very specific process. The withdrawal from Lithuania will not be a withdrawal from the whole of Lithuania at the same time. The troops will be pulling out from some bases, from some cities, airports or training grounds. It seems that the withdrawal will be carried out in this way from all the Baltic countries. It would be rather unrealistic to imagine some improvised simultaneous withdrawal from all the places of deployment.

"We maintain contacts with our Baltic neighbors and companions-in-arms in the fight for liberation; we hold consultations. These issues will be discussed probably not only when the prime ministers meet this week but also at the meeting of the leaders of the Baltic states which will be probably be held next week."

A LIETUVOS AIDAI correspondent asks Landsbergis to comment on talks yesterday between the Lithuanian defense minister and the Russian Defense Ministry. He says: "As I understand it, Russia wanted to have some installations excluded from the timetable. Are these combat or intelligence installations?"

Landsbergis replies: "The curiosity of journalists has no limits. However, this question should be asked of Mr. Butkevicius, who is still in Moscow. He phoned me several times yesterday from the Russian Defense Ministry. He was concerned and surprised at the situation which had developed several hours before the signing of the agreement. He was confronted with attempts to change issues which had already been agreed upon earlier, these attempts being made by officials who were of considerably lower rank than the leaders of the ministry with whom he had coordinated these issues earlier. He could not find his counterpart, the Russian defense minister. Then I had to intervene to some extent to make sure that the defense minister was found. This issue was resolved when Mr. Burbulis and Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Churkin, who was accompanying him, arrived at the Lithuanian Embassy.

A BALTIC INDEPENDENT correspondent asks whether the issue of transit through the territory of Lithuania to Kaliningrad was raised at the Moscow talks. Landsbergis says that this issue was discussed and

recorded in the state treaty between Lithuania and Russia signed 29 July last year. He says that there were no discussions on this issue yesterday in Moscow.

An unidentified journalist asks: "Esteemed chairman, are you sure that the troops will start to pull out? A month ago, I think it was on 12 August, a similar timetable presented by the Lithuanian side was described by Isakov as a 'railway timetable,' as Mr. Stankevicius will remember. On 1 February Mr. Shelov-Kovedyayev also said here that the troops were starting to pull out from Lithuania at that time. So far there have not been any orders in writing. However, General Lebed, in the Dniester region, commenting on written orders, said that if he received Yeltsin's orders to pull out from there he would consult first Smirnov, who is something like a president over there. Do you believe that the troops will start pulling out this month?"

Landsbergis says: "I think if the commanders of Russian troop units asked us whether they should pull out of Lithuania we would tell them we have no objections. The fact that a very specific timetable has been signed which indicates specifically when units should be pulled out from the territory of Lithuania is a very important point in the breakthrough toward a solution to the whole issue. Indeed, it is very topical now, as you have rightly pointed out, whether this withdrawal will occur. We have no reason to doubt that this agreement will be carried out. Moreover, the problem of the withdrawal of troops from Lithuania and from the Baltic states has been watched attentively at an international level. One could say that a permanent political international monitoring system exists. This will affect the withdrawal process."

Next, Ceslovas Stankevicius says that he wants to add that "the timetable for troop withdrawal has not been signed on behalf of the Defense Ministry but on behalf of the Russian Federation. This is a kind of international agreement." INTERFAX journalist Kasperiunas asks about the objective of the document which had not been signed, to which Landsbergis says that this would be a political document which would "also confirm the agreement on the troop withdrawal, while embracing certain circumstances which are related to it and ways of resolving the questions related to it ."

An unidentified journalist asks how the question of the damage inflicted by the occupying troops is being tackled and about Russia's demands to guarantee military transit to Kaliningrad Oblast. Landsbergis says that the issue of transit was not discussed because this was not such a pressing issue. He says that "the issue of compensation for the inflicted damage has always been very sensitive."

Next, Stankevicius reads a namelist of the entire Lithuanian delegation, noting that the press knows only some of the names. He also speaks about the delegation's work and says that other treaties, including the treaty on Russian transit through the Republic of Lithuania, are being prepared: "During the negotiations the Russian position changed. Some demands presented by Russia that were unacceptable to the Republic of Lithuania were later not mentioned, especially at the end of negotiations, so that we managed to coordinate many articles in the package of documents that corresponded to the aims of both sides." Stankevicius adds that compensation for damage was also discussed within this context; therefore this issue was not discussed specifically at this stage of negotiations.

An unidentified journalist asks about the arrangements for damage compensation and about the handing over of some military equipment to Lithuania as compensation.

Landsbergis says that the issue of compensation will be discussed in due course: "Concerning the payment of compensation in weapons, well, this issue is under discussion. This question was touched upon during the meeting with President Yeltsin in January, if not earlier, and it has been an open issue ever since."

A journalist from the OPOZICIJA newspaper asks how the discrepancies found by Yeltsin in the draft agreement that was not signed in Moscow yesterday could be explained. She notes that the draft had been coordinated for such a long time by both sides. She also wants to know why an agreement was signed on withdrawing the troops in 1993, when the Lithuanian referendum demanded that the troop withdrawal occur this year.

Landsbergis states that it became clear from the way that matters proceeded in Moscow that there was inadequate coordination in the Russian leadership and the Russian state delegation. He adds:

"Indeed, the draft documents had been prepared by state delegations. The contradictions were eliminated either through compromise or by creating additional draft documents. Therefore, we thought that the work had been carried out well enough and that all the documents could be signed and, moreover, that the Russian side did not leave any specific time for possible additional summit negotiations. It looked as though there were no controversial points. However, it came out later that the Russian president did not like everything in the agreement. But these are problems for the Russian side which I expect will be solved." He adds that the demand to withdraw the troops in 1992 was a unilateral demand and not part of a bilateral treaty on the issue.

Stankevicius says that the people of Lithuania voting in the referendum in June addressed their demand to Russia and that "Russia was confronted with a problem: to ignore this demand by the Lithuanian nation expressed by way of a referendum or to take it into consideration." He notes that not all the Lithuanian Government demands on the issue were responded to properly. He says that the Lithuanian referendum was a decisive factor in the adoption of Article 15 of the Helsinki political declaration with which Russia also agreed. Stankevicius continues: "The Russian troops must be pulled out regardless of the above agreements. Therefore, at last Russia has adopted a political decision to take the just demands of the Lithuanian people into

consideration. What remained to be resolved was to what degree this consideration was to take effect; namely, whether Russia was withdrawing these troops by 1992, as Lithuania demanded, or Russia would be late in complying with this demand. The timetable reflects this difference. However, this does not mean that somebody has changed the Lithuanian demand."

He says that although the demand by Lithuania to pull the troops out in 1992 remains, Russia has declared that it would be done on a delayed basis. The next question is about the case of deputy Cepaitis, who was accused of cooperation with the KGB.

A journalist from the URM Press Center asks whether Vytautas Landsbergis did not expect that new remarks made on the margins of the treaty prepared for signing would appear on 1 October.

Landsbergis says that life is full of surprises and everything is possible, adding: "I do not doubt that now the work will be continued via negotiating delegations, or through diplomatic channels, thus clarifying the president's remarks or doubts."

Asked about whether there was any connection felt with the statement made by Ordzhonikidze, a Russian United Nations diplomat, Landsbergis says that this outburst was not mentioned directly during the negotiations. However, in the lobbies it was explained that this person was not an outstanding diplomat whose statements of this nature would represent the Russian stance.

Government 'Extremely Concerned' Over Tajikistan

LD0809161792 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1436 GMT 8 Sep 92

[By diplomatic correspondent Sergey Nikishov]

[Text] Moscow, 8 September—The Russian Foreign Ministry "is extremely concerned about the intensity of the confrontation in Tajikistan," Fedor Shelov-Kovedyayev, Russian Federation first deputy minister of foreign affairs, stated in an interview with an ITAR-TASS correspondent today.

Commenting on the development of events in Tajikistan in connection with the resignation of President Rahmon Nabiyev, the deputy minister noted that "such stormy processes leave a mark, not just on the country where they are occurring; they can also exert an influence on the development of events in the region as a whole." In his opinion, it is not just the new independent states, formed after the disintegration of the USSR, which need to be kept in mind.

The Russian Foreign Ministry "has formulated a whole set of measures for consideration by the Russian president," Fedor Shelov-Kovedyayev added, and a note to this effect is currently to be found in his office.

The problem of the citizens who have gathered on the territory of their military units is "a huge problem that needs to be resolved," in the deputy minister's opinion. Since the overwhelming majority of them are afraid to return to the places they have left, the high-ranking diplomat considers that "work needs to be done on a serious plan for their possible transfer beyond the state's boundaries."

Fedor Shelov-Kovedyayev confirmed the immutability of Moscow's stance with regard to Dushanbe and stated that "we are ready to cooperate with a government in Tajikistan that is recognized and respected by its people."

Ready To Help Stabilize Situation

LD0809172892 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1704 GMT 8 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Vasiliy Titov]

[Text] Moscow September 8 TASS—The Russian Foreign Ministry closely follows the situation in Tajikistan and is seriously concerned over the danger of the escalation of the civil war in this country, a senior Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman said at a news briefing at the Russian Foreign Ministry Press Centre today. Such a development of the events would put in peril the security of the Central Asian states as well as Russia.

Sergey Yastrzhembskiy, head of the Foreign Ministry Press and Information Department, said the Russian Ministry proceeds from the premise that interference in the internal affairs of Tajikistan that is located in the area of the Russian Federation's important and versatile interests cannot be justified no matter from where it comes and what it is motivated by.

Yastrzhembskiy voiced hope that in the current situation the Tajik authorities will act being aware of the entire responsibility for the development of the situation both in their country and in the region as a whole that rests on them. The communications channels with Tajikistan are operating and the Russian authorities are prepared for a dialogue and constructive interaction with all political forces and groups, Yastrzhembskiy went on.

He emphasised that Russia is ready to take all necessary measures to provide assistance to the fraternal Tajik people in stabilising the situation in the country, to help it shore up its sovereignty and territorial integrity and ensure the security of the CIS's southern borders.

To Ensure Border Security

MK0909090992 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 9 Sep 92 p 1

[Vladimir Abarinov report under "In Brief" rubric: "Transparency of Tajik Border Dangerous"]

[Text] Russia is prepared to participate in ensuring the security of Tajikistan's southern borders, Sergey Yastrzhembskiy, Russian Federation Foreign Ministry

spokesman, stated at a routine briefing. Yastrzhembskiy gave the following answer to a question put to him by your NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA correspondent as to whether this means that Russia considers such a threat to be a reality and whether this task requires the introduction of additional Russian forces onto the territory of Tajikistan: "The Tajik-Afghan border has become so transparent that it poses a threat not only to Tajikistan but to other CIS members as well. Uzbek President Islam Karimov said this specifically in Minsk yesterday. As for concrete measures, these are actually being discussed by the participants in the Minsk meeting."

In this connection, Yastrzhembskiy drew attention to Marshal Shaposhnikov's participation in the conference.

Yeltsin, Shevardnadze Issue Abkhaz Declaration

LD0509082992 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0635 GMT 5 Sep 92

[Text of Moscow Declaration issued by President Boris Yeltsin and Georgian State Council Chairman Eduard Shevardnadze in Moscow on 5 September]

[Text] Moscow, 5 Sep (ITAR-TASS)—"The president of the Russian Federation and the chairman of the State Council of the Republic of Georgia declare their intention to scrupulously adhere to the provisions of the final document of the Moscow meeting on 3 September 1992, and of the communique on the outcome of their meeting in Sochi on 24 June 1992 which laid a stable foundation for the strengthening of relations between Russia and Georgia. The Russian Federation and Republic of Georgia shall vigorously advocate coordinated actions aimed at achieving an immediate end to the conflicts in the Caucasus region and at ensuring their political solution by solely peaceful means. They shall scrupulously adhere to the provisions of the final document on a settlement in Abkhazia adopted at the meeting in Moscow on 3 September 1992.

"They consider that stability and intercommunal peace and concord in the Caucasus region would be facilitated by the creation of a mechanism for regular consultations, and subsequently also of a mechanism for collective security and mutually beneficial cooperation. It is their firm conviction that the formation of such an institution would significantly contribute to the practical implementation of the principles of the Final Act, the Charter for a New Europe and the Helsinki Document of 1992 that established new institutions and instruments for prevention and settlement of conflicts and defense of the rights of peoples and national minorities.

"Once again having stressed their invariable adherence to the principles of the inviolability of borders and territorial integrity, the president of the Russian Federation and the chairman of the State Council of the Republic of Georgia unambiguously spoke out against any manifestations of political extremism, whether it be the desire to foist decisions on others by force or to pander to a separatism which is destructive to security.

"In this context the Georgian side will take steps to strengthen its borders with Russia, which, in turn, will take similar measures.

"The president of the Russian Federation and the chairman of the Georgian State Council, being firmly convinced that the imparting of new substance which meets the demands of the present day to the historical mutual links between the two neighboring countries will serve as an affirmation of democracy in Russia and Georgia, are fully resolved to act in the interests of the development of stable, equitable, and friendly Russian-Georgian relations. They confirm their desire to speed up the preparation of an all-embracing interstate treaty between the Russian Federation and the Republic of Georgia, within whose framework matters relating to border and customs procedures will also be resolved."

Foreign Ministry Deputy on Baltic Withdrawal

PM0809151692 Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 6 Sep 92 p 4

[Report on interview with First Deputy Foreign Minister Fedor Shelov-Kovedyayev by Torgny Hinnemo in Moscow; date not given]

[Text] Moscow—Russia needs a little over two years to bring home its troops from the Baltic region. But it is possible that one of the Baltic states could be emptied of Russian soldiers before the end of next year. Russia is not demanding that it be allowed to keep any bases after the withdrawal.

So said Russian First Deputy Foreign Minister Fedor Shelov-Kovedyayev in a SVENSKA DAGBLADET interview. Shelov-Kovedyayev is the man at ministerial level who is responsible for Russia's relations with the 14 former Soviet republics.

He also sharply criticized the Baltic states because a large section of their Russian-speaking inhabitants are being refused citizenship. As a result the Baltic states themselves are creating an explosive situation, the minister said. The actions of the Baltic states also represent a breach of the agreements they have entered into.

On Tuesday [8 September] Russian President Yeltsin and Lithuanian President Landsbergis meet to reach agreement on the timetable for the Russian forces' withdrawal from Lithuania. Before this meeting an official at the Russian Foreign Ministry recently said in an interview that Russia its prepared to bring home its troops over the course of the next year.

"So far I have no information about this," Shelov-Kovedyayev said, after thinking a long time about his reply.

"And another consideration is that depending on how many troops there are in one or other of the countries the timetables could be different. It is well known that the largest number of soldiers are stationed in Latvia."

However, after the general withdrawal Russia has a great interest in being allowed to keep for a transitional period the installations—chiefly radar stations—whose function it is to give advance warning of nuclear attack. Russia needs if not decades at least several years to build new installations on its own territory, Shelov-Kovedyayev said.

According to the minister, there are around 12 sites in Latvia which Russia wants access to in a transitional period. None are in Lithuania, while the Russian Defense Ministry is still engaged in internal discussions about whether any of the Estonian installations should be added to the want list. None of these installations need a large staff and therefore do not represent a threat to the states in which they are located, he said.

Even though in principle the warning systems were part of the defenses of either NATO or the Soviet Union, they were in close contact with each other, Shelov-Kovedyayev said. When unreliable observations were made, the two superpowers' surveillance centers simply contacted each other to avoid disastrous mistakes. Now that the world is no longer divided in NATO and Warsaw Pact spheres of influence, there is even less reason to take any part of the system out of operation, he said.

"Existence will simply become more dangerous without a wall-to-wall surveillance network. Without the Baltic units a situation will arise sooner or later, in a month's time or a year's time, in which Russia will discover a flying object without being able to to determine with any certainty where it is coming from."

One of the questions which remain open is what fate is facing the Paldiski naval base in Estonia. Paldiski is of interest to Sweden in part because the two minisubmarines, which SVENSKA DAGBLADET discovered last year and the existence of which was confirmed this year by the Russian Naval Staff, have operated from Paldiski.

"I do not intend to reveal any details. But especially when I had talks with Estonian President Ruutel this May he spoke in positive terms of jointly using Paldiski. This would not necessarily involve military use but be some form of jointly owned company," Shelov-Kovedyayev said.

The question of military withdrawal and the rights of the Russian-speaking groups are being discussed within the framework of the same negotiations. But this does not mean that the military issues are being used as some form of threat, the minister said.

"It is true that we are interested in clearing up a whole complex of questions. But when we talk about a package solution this does not mean that one problem will be allowed to delay the solution of the others."

It is in the interests of both sides that an agreement on the status of and support for the Russian troops before withdrawal is reached quickly. This will prevent possible provocations, in Shelov-Kovedyayev's view. At the same time, the period leading up to withdrawal can be used for negotiations on the social conditions of former employees of the defense forces. There are many former officers and technicians who have their roots in the Baltic states and who therefore want to stay there, in Shelov-Kovedyayev's view.

"If you ignore the rhetorical statements made by representatives of public organizations both in Russia and the Baltic states, very businesslike and very detailed talks about these social problems are actually taking place."

Shelov-Kovedyayev said that the position of the Russian-speaking groups is exposed in various ways in all the former Soviet republics. However, it is only in the Baltic states that their right to citizenship is being questioned. The bilateral agreements which Russia reached with all three states state that Russians living in the Baltic states when they proclaimed their independence last year have the right to choose between citizenship of the country in which they live or citizenship of Russia.

"What is contained in an international agreement has the same validity as law," the minister said. "Estonia's citizenship law, which provides for a qualifying period of two years, meets international norms. But it cannot invalidate the agreement on those Russians who lived in Estonia during the Soviet era," he stressed. Everyone living in Estonia was not only a Soviet citizen but automatically an Estonian citizen too.

"The Russians who worked for Estonian independence have been put in a very difficult position. Many Russians were involved in the People's Front in Estonia. Today they are being treated like outsiders. And 40 percent of the population does not have the right to vote. This could lead to a dangerous explosion," Shelov-Kovedyayev said.

Shelov-Kovedyayev himself thinks that many Russians in the Baltic states will choose to become Russian citizens.

"The important thing is that people should have a free choice. This provides the guarantee that they will feel solidarity with the state whose citizenship they hold," he said.

The citizenship issue is one of the most difficult in the negotiations. Nothing is expected to happen in this respect before the 20 September Estonian presidential election. Only after that date will it be clear whether Estonia will relax its position, the minister said. He also stressed that the citizenship law under discussion in Latvia violates the Russian-speaking group's rights even more.

"Their position is reminiscent of the old Soviet Union, which signed an agreement on human rights in Helsinki and implemented different legislation here at home," Shelov-Kovedyayev said.

The Russian parliament has been very critical of a number of agreements with the former Soviet republics. It has also raised the question of the situation of the

Russian-speaking groups in the Baltic states. What are the Russian Government's chances of having an agreement on troop withdrawals and other questions ratified by its parliament?

"That is a problem which ministries come up against in all countries. But I am an optimist because despite everything it is wise to follow common sense. Perhaps the agreements will not be approved immediately. But sooner or later they will receive the approval of parliament," Fedor Shelov-Kovedyayev said.

Gaydar on Estonian Trade Accord, Human Rights

LD0709131292 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1157 GMT 7 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Ivan Ivanov]

[Text] Moscow September 7 TASS—Russia and Estonia agreed on Monday [7 September] to exchange free access to each other's markets, but human rights of Russians in Estonia remained a serious problem.

Two economic agreements—on free trade and on exchange of trade missions—were signed by Russian Acting Prime Minister Yegor Gaydar and his Estonian counterpart Tiit Vahi.

The free trade treaty "envisages favourable access of both countries to each other's markets," Gaydar told TASS after the signing ceremony. He did not elaborate.

But Gaydar said he is dissatisfied with the state of relations between the two former Soviet republics because of existing "serious problems." "I believe these problems are, first and foremost connected with human rights in Estonia...," he said, adding economic relations cannot fully suit both countries either.

"But I think that we are jointly trying to act in such a way that the problems cease to exist," he stressed.

The two heads of government agreed that an international commission of experts will visit Estonia to probe the human rights situation there, according to Gaydar.

The talks, which he called "constructive", dwelt in particular on Russian export of shale to Estonia and import of electricity for the Pskov region bordering on the Baltic state, on cooperation of customs to prevent illegal export of Russian raw materials to Estonia, etc.

Russian military pullout from Estonia, the status of the troops during the withdrawal period and prevention of possible incidents with the troops were also discussed, according to Gaydar.

The results of the talks "move us ahead in the direction of mutual understanding and preservation of economic, cultural and political ties which were shaped earlier," he said.

Team to Cuba To Discuss Military Withdrawal

LD0809165192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1608 GMT 8 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Vasiliy Titov]

[Text] Moscow September 8 TASS—A Russian delegation led by special envoy Vladimir Ustinov left for Havana on Tuesday [8 September] to discuss the withdrawal from Cuba of the Russian military training team, head of the Russian Foreign Ministry Information and Press Department Sergey Yastrzhembskiy told a briefing at the Russian Foreign Ministry press centre on Tuesday.

Yastrzhembsky said that a total of 1,200 team's servicemen had already left Cuba. The remaining team numbers 1,630 servicemen, he said.

Spokesman on Cuba's Nuclear Power Station

LD0809173992 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1719 GMT 8 Sep 92

[By diplomatic correspondent Vasiliy Titov]

[Text] Moscow September 8 TASS—In view of Fidel Castro's statement about the intention temporarily to suspend the construction of the Juragua nuclear power station in Cienfuegos, which is being carried out with Russia's assistance, Russian organisations and agencies that are engaged in building the facility deem it necessary to discuss the problems arising in this regard at talks with the Cuban side, Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman Sergey Yastrzhembskiy said at a news briefing at the Russian Foreign Ministry Press Centre today.

It is clear already today that the temporary suspension in the construction of the station can entail serious economic problems for both countries and will be linked with the need to solve complex technical issues, Yastrzhembskiy said.

Defense Minister Meets Indian Counterpart

LD0709102192 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0937 GMT 7 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Andrey Naryshkin]

[Text] Moscow, 7 Sep—"We will always try to maintain the development of cooperation with Russia in the military sphere at the level of the past 40 years," said Indian Defense Minister Sharad Pawar at the request of journalists on the results of today's meeting with the Army General Pavel Grachev. In turn, the Russian defense minister stressed that the transitional period brought about by the collapse of the Soviet Union has slowed the development of Russia's ties with India. "Today we discussed and mapped out a range of directions for the restoration of the links in the military and technical spheres. This concerns the Indian side most of all, but us as well," he said.

"We proposed reviewing our draft bilateral agreement on comprehensive military cooperation," Grachev noted. "The Indian defense minister promised to study this document during his visit and to respond to it."

The head of the Russian military department remarked: "I hope that in the near future the agreement will be signed. This can happen before Boris Yeltsin's visit to India in January 1993 or during his visit. In addition, we discussed the volume of sales to India of Russian military equipment and spares. I promised to get all our agreements in this sphere carried out more quickly than at present," the Russian defense minister underlined.

According to Grachev, questions concerning the situation in the Central Asian region were also discussed in the course of the meeting, including Tajikistan, and the viewpoints of the parties on these issues coincided, the Russian defense minister said.

Discuss Arms Sales, Prices

LD0709123492 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1000 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Report by I. Barchugov; from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] Yesterday, as is already known, the Indian defense minister arrived on an official visit to Russia.

[Barchugov] At the talks held today between Pavel Grachev and Mr. Sharad Pawar, his Indian counterpart, quite a broad spectrum of issues was discussed concerning our ties in the sphere of military cooperation, which fell apart during the perestroyka years. Naturally, the main question was that of supplies of our arms to India.

[Begin Grachev recording] This question took up most of our time. We discussed ways of selling equipment, arms, and spares to India. At the same time, this question is not a prerogative of the Defense Ministry, insofar as, you yourself know, this question is dealt with by our External Relations Ministry. [end recording]

[Barchugov] Thus, we are ready to sell our weapons, but will India be able to acquire them at current prices? This will become clear after the talks between Mr. Pawar and Petr Aven, Russian foreign economic relations minister.

Yeltsin Condolences to Bush on Hurricane Damage

LD0809160792 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1533 GMT 8 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Vasiliy Titov]

[Text] Moscow September 8 TASS—Russian President Boris Yeltsin sent a telegramme of condolences to U.S. President George Bush on hurricanes that struck the states of Florida and Louisiana, claiming human lives and causing extensive destruction, Russian Foreign Ministry Spokesman Sergey Yastrzhembskiy told a briefing on current politics held on Tuesday [8 September] at the Russian Foreign Ministry Press Centre.

The message stressed Russia's readiness to render aid to the United States in doing away with the aftermaths of the tragedy, the spokesman said. Russia could send a group of specialists with machinery to conduct restoration work.

The spokesman noted that President Bush expressed sincere gratitude for the sympathy expressed and the proposal to help. Specific forms of cooperation are now being discussed.

Khasbulatov: DPRK Treaty Clauses To Be Rejected

SK0909030392 Seoul YONHAP in English 0244 GMT 9 Sep 92

[Text] Moscow, Sept. 9 (YONHAP)—The Russian Parliament would reject clauses in the Moscow-Pyongyang alliance treaty that contradict Moscow-Seoul amity, Parliament Chairman Ruslan Khasbulatov said Tuesday [8 September].

Meeting Kim Tae-chung, leader of South Korea's main opposition Democratic Party [DP], Khasbulatov said he had told the Parliament's intention to the North Korean ambassador to Moscow shortly after he returned from a visit to South Korea last year, according to DP spokesman Chang Sok-hwa who was present at the meeting.

The chairman said he had also explained to the ambassador his firm position that nuclear weapons should be eradicated from the Korean peninsula.

The Parliament, which is responsible for setting foreign policies and implementing them, had already ordered the Foreign Ministry to look into clauses apt to cause trouble with the Seoul-Moscow relations, Khasbulatov said.

He made the points when Kim asked for more parliamentary efforts to promote cooperative relations between the two countries, Chang said. Seoul and Moscow normalized relations in September 1990.

Khasbulatov's remarks implied that Russia would abrogate or revise parts of its 1961 Treaty of Friendship and Mutual Assistance with North Korea, the spokesman said.

Kim thanked Khasbulatov for making a resolute decision.

As for Russo-Korea economic cooperation, Kim said the two governments should discuss whether Korean loans were used properly and would be repaid.

Meanwhile, the diplomatic academy to which Kim had presented his doctoral dissertation confirmed him as successful Tuesday.

Russia, Taiwan To Exchange 'Unofficial' Offices

LD0809220692 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1100 GMT 8 Sep 92

[Text] Taiwan has announced that it has reached an accord with Russia to exchange unofficial representative offices. Taiwan's Vice Foreign Minister Chang said that

in the near future Taiwan will open offices in Moscow, St. Petersburg, and Vladivostok, and Russia will open such offices in Taipei and Kaohsiung. Chang said that these will be unofficial offices, given that Russia and Taiwan do not have diplomatic relations. The offices will, however, be empowered to issue visas, and their staff will enjoy diplomatic immunity.

It is also reported that Russian Federation representatives will visit Taiwan this month to discuss the opening of an air route between the two countries and the development of trade and tourism.

[Taipei CNA in English at 0752 GMT on 8 September also reports on the opening of representative offices in Russia: "The Republic of China [[ROC]] will set up a representative office in Russia soon, Vice Foreign Minister Chang Hsiao-yen announced Tuesday morning. Chang told a news conference that the office will be named 'The Taipei Representative Office in Moscow.' In addition, Chang said, the ROC will open offices in Vladivostok and St. Petersburg. Chang reported that both the ROC and Russia will set up a 'Coordination Council' to handle bilateral exchanges in the absence of diplomatic relations. He explained that the ROC representative offices in Russia will issue visas and handle other consular affairs. Chang said the move is an important step in the promotion of substantive Sino-Russian relations."]

Shaposhnikov Offers 'Personal' View of Kurils

MK0709135992 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 5 Sep 92 p 1

[C.P. report under the "In Brief" rubric: "Kurils: Marshal Shaposhnikov's Opinion"]

[Text] The command of the CIS Joint Armed Forces considers that the problem of the Kuril Islands falls exclusively within the domain of Russian and Japanese jurisdiction, and the CIS command has no official view on this score—this was declared yesterday to a NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA correspondent by Marshal Yegveniy Shaposhnikov. He expounded his personal attitude toward this dispute: "I do not understand and I will not accept the position of those who—to serve their own interests—are taking advantage of the difficulties of the period of transition from the USSR to the CIS. Nobody will ever obtain any islands from Russia by using force. It is another matter if goodwill to draw closer together and to support the Russian reforms is demonstrated...."

Political Issues

Yeltsin Blames Lawmakers for Impeding Reforms

LD0709182592 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1757 GMT 7 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Gennadiy Talalayev]

[Text] Moscow September 7 TASS—Russian President Boris Yeltsin believes the pace of reforms depends on local administrators, while law-makers throughout the country are impeding the process.

"A positive change is taking place in the country. Depending on the skills of local administrators the movement towards a market economy is going ahead at a good pace in several places", Presidential Spokesman Vyacheslav Kostikov quoted Yeltsin as saying at a meeting with heads of several Russian territories and regions on Monday. However, reforms are stalled by local law-makers, according to the president.

"The institution of heads of administrations is one of the backbones of stability in the state and it is to be preserved and strengthened", the president was quoted as saying.

Kostikov said that heads of administrations called for a strong executive authority headed by the president during the transitional period to a market economy, but warned against infringing on democratic tendencies in society.

The president supported the idea and added it is necessary to move towards unity between executive and legislative authorities, according to Kostikov.

The closed-door meeting was held on the eve of the All-Russian Conference which is to take place in the city of Cheboksary on September 11 and discuss relations between local executive, legislative and federal authorities, as well as other issues related to local bodies of power.

The Federal Government maintains excellent relations with heads of administrations, but cooperation with local law-makers goes rather difficultly, according to Kostikov. Administrators and the government are united in implementing reforms which is an important element in the movement towards a market economy, he added.

Yeltsin Meets With Local Administrators

OW0709210892 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1813 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Russian President Boris Yeltsin has met with the heads of local administrations of a number of territories, regions and ethnic districts to have a preliminary discussion of the issues to be included in the agenda of an all-Russia conference of the leaders of Soviets and executive bodies of government. The presidential press secretary Vyacheslav Kostikov has said that at the meeting relations between representative and executive bodies as well as closer contacts with them in order to further reforms were discussed. Much attention was paid to the relationship of regional executive bodies with the government of the Russian Federation.

President Yeltsin said that judging by grass-roots reports favorable shifts had begun in society, in particular in those areas where local administrations turned an attentive ear to people's requests. In such areas all groups of society responded with understanding to market economy realities. At the same time the president noted the forces of retardation, hampering progress towards a market economy. He said that in many cases those contradictions were artificial. Participants in the meeting said that there must be a standard concept of executive power.

Keeping Newsmen From Yeltsin Meeting Deplored

PM0809141092 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 5 Sep 92 p 2

[R. Zaripov report: "Is Darkness Young People's Friend?"]

[Text] B. Yeltsin has become secretive.

Yesterday the Russian president met with representatives of youth organizations. In secret. That is, it is not that the conversation took place clandestinely—the event that took place in the President Hotel was announced beforehand. It was simply that journalists... were not allowed into the hall.

Just what lies behind the mundane phrase "state youth policy" (this is what was being discussed)? Clearly the documents circulated among the participants were strictly secret?

Far from it. Artem Smolyanoy, who was representing the "Free Russia" youth movement, took part in the preparation of all three draft documents—the president's decree on priority measures in the sphere of state youth policy, the corresponding Supreme Soviet resolution, and documents on the main directions of youth policy. His explanations leave no doubt: "I do not know of any provision in the documents that could be in any way secret. We would have liked the press to have been present at the session from start to finish." As for the documents' contents, the decree talks about forming a Youth Affairs Committee under the government and forming a Russian foundation for federal youth programs and introduces a ban on the seizure of premises used by children's and youth organizations for their own purposes.

But let us give the floor to Yegor Gaydar, who took part in the session.

"Most questions were specific. They were questions about the foreign training program, the retraining of cadres in market economy conditions, and specific problems regarding youth housing complexes and young pioneer camps. They are not difficult to discuss, but they are

'costly' questions. Everyone is perfectly well aware that to deprive children of pioneer camps—one of socialism's real achievements—would be a terrible blow. At the same time all this is costly, which means that we must prepare for next year and consider our possibilities."

So what is there to hide here? Or is a new tradition emerging with the president's support?

Work To Finalize Draft Constitution Continues

PM0809153592 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 5 Sep 92 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed report under the rubric "Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow": "Work on Constitution Continues"]

[Text] Work to finalize the Russian Constitution has begun at regular sessions of the working group and group of experts in accordance with Russian Federation Constitutional Commission's plan of work, approved by Chairman Boris Yeltsin.

They are scrutinizing the many amendments which deputies submitted at the Sixth Congress, the amendments submitted by republic, kray, and oblast soviets, and federal departments, and the Russian president's proposals.

In a month's time the finalized draft will be discussed at a Constitutional Commission plenary session, and it will then be scrutinized section by section at a routine Supreme Soviet session.

Foreign Intelligence Service Becomes State Body

LD0709161192 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1900 GMT 6 Sep 92

[Text] Russia's foreign intelligence has joined the ranks of other state institutions. An RIA correspondent was told this by Foreign Intelligence Press Service Director Yuriy Kobaladze. Previously, being a structural subdivision, foreign intelligence had served the interests not only of the state but also of a certain political group, he noted. In accordance with the recently passed law of the Russian Federation on foreign intelligence, all its services only carry out the tasks strictly stipulated for them by legislation, and cannot be used in the interests of any of the country's officials or political parties.

Resolution Orders Contingency Plan for Refugees

PM0909093992 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Sep 92 Morning Edition p 3

[Report by Arnold Pushkar: "Where Is the Poor Russian To Go? Secret Resolution in Case of Mass Migration"]

[Text] Tula-Kaluga-Ryazan—As a central Russian oblast migration service staffer reported confidentially, a secret Russian Government resolution has been obtained concerning measures in the event of an emergency—the mass flight of Russians from nearby foreign countries. In accordance with this move, interdepartmental commissions have been set up with the involvement of civil defense bodies, and a record is being made of young pioneer camps, recreation centers, and schools.

The Tula migration service said that the flow of refugees has in fact increased, with particularly large numbers coming from Tajikistan, Azerbaijan, and Abkhazia. Some 400 families were admitted in July and August and more than 100 last week alone. You still encounter violations of the Russian-speaking population's rights, particularly in Latvia, Estonia, and Abkhazia.

G. Yatskiv, staffer in the Ryazan Oblast administration's manpower redistribution department, said that, with the outbreak of ethnic conflicts, the flow of refugees is increasing, as in the case where refugees flooded out of Abkhazia. They talk of robbery, rape, and threats. Russian men are being press-ganged into fighting in Georgian and Abkhaz formations. Many families have arrived without men, some not just with their own, but with other people's children as well. As for the hypothetical migration, the oblast can take people for a while. But, as in Kaluga and Tula, there is no free housing, even dilapidated dwellings, left in cities or in villages to accommodate them permanently.

So, according to information from migration services, the secret resolution essentially contains nothing new when you compare it with earlier public resolutions, except for a call to be ready to act in an emergency—that is, mass migration. Anyway, should one keep secret something that must be broadcast abroad? We have to seek observance of human rights and make every effort to protect compatriots' interests.

Vice Premier on Regions, Economic Reform

PM0409160992 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 4 Sep 92 First Edition p 3

[Interview with Vice Premier Valeriy Makharadze by Vitaliy Kovalenko under the rubric "Market and Region"; place and date not given: "Reform Needs More People To Do Donkeywork"]

[Text] Last week, for the first time, there was a meeting between the "upper echelons" and the "grass roots"—the working conference of heads of kray and oblast administrations, enterprise leaders, entrepreneurs, and farmers was attended by Yegor Gaydar, vice premiers, and ministers. In my view, this was one confirmation that the country has entered the second stage of the reforms. How does this differ from the first? I asked Valeriy Makharadze, the vice premier in charge of the regions in the government, to answer this question.

[Makharadze] The focus of efforts today and therefore also the main work is shifting from Moscow to the provinces, to where privatization, the issuing of shares in enterprises, and the transformation of the agrarian sector will take place. Whereas yesterday tasks of reforming the macro level were in the forefront, now we must focus our

efforts on specifics, on forming real mechanisms for market management of enterprises, rayons, and cities.

[Kovalenko] Aren't we once again getting ahead of events? The legislative base is patchy and contradictory, there is no market infrastructure, communications exist in name only, and cadres... Many people believe that unless we resolve these problems and set clear rules of the game, we cannot seriously talk about building a market economy. It goes without saying that the center must approve these decisions.

[Makharadze] If we were to follow that logic, only one thing would be left for us: to lie down and die. Because the "rules of the game"—in the West these are volumes weighing many kilograms about each individual question—take decades to emerge. It will be exactly the same in our country. But even time, which we lack, is not the point, the point is that these rules encapsulate the living practice of the activity of market agents. In other words, we will not produce the rules unless we have the practice. But what people are telling us is: First of all you explain what I am supposed to do and how, and then I will consider whether it is worth getting up off the sofa.

But maybe the most important point is this: This talk of rules of the game and of a clear program that the government must submit usually comes from people who have long been engaged in politics rather than management proper. The recent congress of commodity producers confirmed that even the hope and pillar of conservative forces—the directors—are no longer what they were before. Maybe they are not all as resolute in their attitudes as the Tula delegation, which all walked out of the congress after a couple of hours, say, but the majority, I am sure, will simply not attend the next such event. They are fed up with empty talk of politics that boils down to the same old thing—how to organize matters in such a way that the old conditions are restored. They need the recommendations, experience, and advice of those who have now learned to live in the new conditions. This change in awareness is, in my view, the most important result of the first stage.

[Kovalenko] Isn't this the result of the powerlessness that the state has been displaying recently with astonishing consistency? Day in, day out, people are seeing for themselves that it is pointless to turn to it for help—whether it is a matter of money for wages or resources for the state. So what remains? You have to sort things out for yourself and seek ways of surviving under the new conditions.

[Makharadze] In real life people abandon the familiar in favor of the new only under the pressure of circumstances. I used to be a director, and I know that you pursue an unorthodox solution only after all traditional methods have failed. So if we were to leave the former guaranteed channels of supply in place and to pay for all the output that is produced regardless, we would still have the situation that dragged on for seven years—endless talk of the market and a stagnant quagmire in terms of action. Because you could live in the old way, in the same old rut, and engage in reform in your free time after work. Only now have these two processes begun to come together: If you want to survive, please issue shares and seek partners and sales markets. But first of all earn money.

The market begins with independence. With the ability to stand on your own feet and to take full responsibility for yourself. It was objectively impossible for independence to merge until the pipelines connecting every enterprise, and through it each person, to the state budget and state resources were severed.

[Kovalenko] Aren't you afraid that the shock may have a lethal outcome? For good or ill, people were fed through these "pipelines," and they know no other way. Now you have turned off the tap...

[Makharadze] No, I have no fears on that score. First, because state support exists, and no one has any intention of abolishing it altogether. But this must indeed be support, not the sole lifeline. Ideally every enterprise should work in such a way as to provide for all its own needs, and also hand over some of its profits to maintain the state. But today it is unrealistic to set such a task—enterprises are not ready, the infrastructure to provide them with the necessary horizontal links and flows of goods and finance does not exist. But regions can survive independently perfectly well, relying on their own efforts.

Four types of "regional behavior" have now clearly emerged. Krays and oblasts with a developed agrarian sector are trying to curb the decline in consumption and the rise in food prices on their territory by reducing interregional economic links and switching them to a barter system. Regions where a considerable scientific and technical potential has been accumulated are gambling on rapid privatization and the creation of market structures and conditions for foreign investment. Regions where extractive sectors predominate and agriculture is poorly developed are trying to organize barter with both industrial and agrarian states and oblasts. Finally, republics, krays, and oblasts that possess rich natural resources are bursting to secure total independence and are leading movements for unlimited sovereignty.

[Kovalenko] Okay, in the very near future, instead of the Russian state, we are going to have a version of 19th-century Germany, which, as is well known, consisted of a whole bunch of small principalities.

[Makharadze] There are no simple solutions in life. There are always pluses and minuses. There is a real danger of Russia falling apart and turning into a treaty-based state or confederation. Who would dispute that? But this is an inevitable side effect found when regions gain their independence, without which they simply cannot move forward. In every oblast people must at long last realize some simple things: There is land, there are plants and farms on it, there are people living on it: all this must be a minimum guarantee of the territory's self-sufficiency.

Paradoxical though it may seem, the question has never been raised before in those terms. Now we must see as swiftly as possible what each region actually has, what it has a surplus of, and what it does not have enough of. In order to assess your own potential and learn to use any surplus to obtain whatever is lacking, you need first of all to feel you are the master. Hence the desire for sovereignty. But at the same time another tendency is emerging and developing, and this tendency is based on the question: How can we make most effective use of our potential? When the euphoria of receiving the first dollars for sales of timber, diamonds, or oil has subsided and when elementary calculations show that you have made only half what you could have, the need will arise for a strong state which will ensure equal conditions in the international market for our entrepreneurs and guarantee the stability of ties and money and the reliability and completeness of information. Then an integrationist mood will prevail in our country, as it does in Europe.

[Kovalenko] But before uniting, will we have to go our separate ways?

[Makharadze] Not necessarily, by any means. When you begin to really get down to work even with the republics that have made a shibboleth of the slogan of sovereignty, it transpires that no one is yet thinking of seceding from Russia. Second, if you don't talk in generalities but take specific problems, even very acute ones, it turns out that you can always find a normal compromise solution. Having said that, unless the barriers to regional aspirations for independence are removed and healthy trends are allowed to develop, events may indeed then become uncontrollable and results unpredictable. That is why I think the priority task is adopting a package of documents ensuring the division of powers between the center and the regions.

[Kovalenko] But where is the dividing line going to run?

[Makharadze] First of all, of course, we must clearly define relations with the budget and demarcate the tax system. The second extremely important point is foreign economic activity. The third is power. We must reduce as much as possible the number of questions resolved only by the center, determine those that are to be handled jointly, and leave the rest to the "lower levels." No one can have the right to interfere in the activity of the power structures that the regions establish on the basis of the principles of self-government and the specific needs dictated by their specific nature and local peculiarities.

[Kovalenko] Won't we end up with 80 types of power in Russia? Won't power in Smolensk be fundamentally different from power in Tyumen?

[Makharadze] How can that happen if municipal norms are set within the framework of all-Russian laws? Anyhow, all regions have the same basic problems. If in Tyumen power has a mighty foreign economic branch but in Smolensk there is only a small twig in that place, it does not matter.

After all, what is the most important thing? In effect local authorities now have responsibility for the survival of their regions. But they are refusing to accept this responsibility because they do not have the necessary powers. So this potential must be granted to them. Then the process of designing and building a normal life-support system will begin. Each administration head will really calculate how many trading houses, for instance, are needed in order to ensure the flow of goods in the region—one, five, or 10? What municipal structures should ensure they are formed and monitor them, what real mechanisms should they have for this? In short, the specific practice without which neither market relations nor life itself can exist will get off the ground.

[Kovalenko] Will all Russia speed toward the bright future with one accord?

[Makharadze] There is no call for your sarcasm. Of course, it will not be a smooth road. But there are conflicts and conflicts. At the conference of administration heads, for instance, the director of the Saratov Aviation Plant very harshly criticized the government, in particular, over the fact that the mutual offsetting of debts has been introduced for state enterprises, and the Saratov Aviation Plant, which issued shares earlier than other plants and is delivering output without taking a kopek from the state, has been left looking like a fool.

No criticism is pleasant. But when people say to me: Correct your mistake, because it is preventing us from working, like anyone, I feel aggrieved, and then I begin to change things. But when people go in for general abuse, call for a change of government, and promise that everyone will find overnight that things are fine as a result, I can only spread my hands. There will be plenty of criticism and conflicts—and fine! It's very necessary, this flow of feedback which will force us to adjust both laws and reform plans to bring them into line with life.

[Kovalenko] And who is going to tackle this great mass of work at the local level?

[Makharadze] There's a problem with people, it's true. But the people do exist. Anyhow, the distinguishing feature of any real cause is that it produces the necessary people. The nucleus and linchpin must be the administration heads.

[Kovalenko] But they are in a very shaky position, their status has still not been defined. When you are starting out from that kind of position you can scarcely really show your mettle.

[Makharadze] I think we should urgently adopt a law ratifying the present administration heads for the period until the next elections to local organs of power. These are not unworthy people, life has brought them to prominence, and the six to nine months they have been in power have shown that the overwhelming majority of administration heads are ready for the role of linchpin. What the reform now primarily needs is people to do the donkeywork, for them, without hesitating, to pick up a

shovel if necessary and start digging, and then gather intelligent people together and consider how to organize life tomorrow. The period that lies ahead for us is unknown territory for everyone—both in our country and abroad. We can understand it by only one method—by acting.

Economic & Trade Issues

Gaydar Writes on Economic Mistakes, Improvements

LD0809202792 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1000 GMT 8 Sep 92

[Text] Yegor Gaydar, acting chairman of the government of Russia, writes in today's ROSSISKIYE VESTI that the most serious mistake in the forecasts of economic reforms in socialist countries in the mid-1980's was the notion of the high degree to which the process of the transformation of the socialist economy into a market one could be controlled. This process is carried out by governments that have weak institutions with only limited possibilities and freedom to maneuver.

The resulting institutional vacuum led, in particular, to control over the flow of resources being lost by 1991 both at the level of the Union and of Russia. As a result, the chaotic and uncontrollable processes of the winding down of economic activity began to develop.

Writing of the results of the past nine months, from the point of view of resistance to inflationary process and of the launch of market institutes, Yegor Gaydar notes that the reaction of economic subjects to the restrictive macroeconomic policy is, on the whole, adequate. The pace of price hikes has dropped rather steadily each month, beginning with extremely high prices in January and falling to a moderate level in July and early August.

Trade Unions Threaten Government With Strike

OW0809152392 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1337 GMT 08 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] September 15 is the deadline set to the government by the Conference of Work Collectives of Moscow and Moscow Region for the satisfaction of its demands.

In this connection the Coordinating Committee of the Industrial Work Collectives of Moscow Region has issued an address to Muscovites calling on them to come to a rally on Staraya Ploshchad at 4:30 p.m. [1230 GMT] on September 17 to confirm their resolve to continue their struggle.

"We may have to resort to a general warning strike as a method in our struggle," the address says.

For more information please contact the Information Center of the Moscow Federation of Trade Unions at Tel. 292-5855 or 292-5336.

Conference Shows Range of Views on Privatization

PM0809143792 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Sep 92 Morning Edition p 2

[Report by Igor Karpenko: "Voucher Could Cause Social Conflicts"]

[Text] A conference held in the White House on 3 September by Russian Supreme Soviet Chairman R. Khasbulatov was devoted to the problems arising in the course of privatization, including the prospect of the use of vouchers.

The three-hour exchange revealed a very broad spectrum of conflicting opinions, ideas, and attitudes toward the present stage of the economic reform. Ranging, for example, from proposals to release the entire residue (two-thirds still left) of state property to working people in the very near future in the form of checks, so that as many people as possible have the means, the initial capital to be able to start up their own businesses, to an absolute condemnation of "wholesale voucherization" as a purely populist and political act which can only bring people disappointment and occasion new social conflicts. The age-old theme of the socially just division of property resurfaced, of course...

Nikolay Travkin's speech brough the debate down to earth. He rightly observed that amid the vouchers and the shares everyone seems to have forgotten why privatization was undertaken—to revive the economy and increase production efficiency. Obviously the reform is not providing these stimuli as yet. And implementation of the reform is at its worst where it is most needed—in the actual production sphere.

A curious trend emerged at the conference: The production chiefs are clearly switching their criticism from the Central Bank (following its promise to cancel mutual debts) to the government's financial policy.

Unfortunately, yet another level of confrontation was identified at the conference—between the State Property Committee and the Russian Federal Property Fund. For example, there was a direct threat from Fund Chairman F. Tabeyev to use a trust (a confidential way of disposing of the state equity) as an economic stick to educate collectives that are demanding more autonomy than they are entitled to and do not want to share their currency earnings. The Ust-Ilimsk pulp complex was specifically mentioned. But the possibility of using the trust in such an original way is giving rise to anxiety, of course.

State Property Committee Chairman A. Chubays, clearly aware of the correlation of forces at the conference, confined himself to explaining certain provisions of the normative documents on privatization and stating that the information in the press claiming that he had put the real value of the vouchers at 200,000 rubles was untrue.

Bringing the conference to a close, R. Khasbulatov urged all the sides confronting one another to seek peace and

cooperation and promised that the Supreme Soviet committees and commissions will use the speakers' proposals to adjust the state programs for privatization in 1993.

Chubays Says 10,000 Enterprises Privatized

LD0509175792 Moscow Programma Radio Odin Network in Russian 1430 GMT 5 Sep 92

[Text] The Russian tripartite commission on regulating social and labor relations today adopted a resolution supporting the government's first practical steps in implementing the state's privatization program.

The meeting of the commission was addressed by Anatoliy Chubays, chairman of the state committee for the management of state property. He stated that so far over 10,000 enterprises have been privatized. The economic impact of this is fairly impressive—amounting to more than 10 billion rubles. However, the substantive result is even more important, Chubays said. As a rule, privatized enterprises have a wider range of goods, a higher standard of service, and lower prices. At the same time, he acknowledged that the reform process should proceed at a faster pace.

Shokhin Accuses Central Bank of Weakening Ruble

LD0909092592 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1700 GMT 8 Sep 92

[Report by correspondent S. Suntsov on news conference held by Vice Premier Aleksandr Shokhin in Moscow on 8 September; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Vice Premier Aleksandr Shokhin's address to journalists showed how many problems there are in the foreign-economic sphere. The introduction in July of a unified currency rate for the ruble as a step toward conversion led to a sharp increase in the cost of imports. The government is now looking into the possibility of subsidies from the state budget for imports of food and medical supplies, which are of important social significance, and also certain types of raw material and spare parts. The sharp drop in the rate of the ruble, Aleksandr Shokhin noted, is the result, not of the government's economic policy but a lack of attention on the part of the Central Bank to the problem and the weakening on its part of control over the activities of commercial banks.

Concerning the Russian president's upcoming visits to Japan and South Korea, Aleksandr Shokhin said that a draft of agreements and investment projects has been prepared, both in the sphere of high technologies and in developing deposits of oil, gold, gas, and copper in Siberia and the Far East.

Shokhin Announces Subsidies for Food, Medicine

LD0909082492 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0000 GMT 9 Sep 92

[Text] The Russian Government will spend up to 200 billion rubles annually on subsidies for the importing of food, medicines, and necessary raw materials. This was announced at a news conference in Moscow by Russian Vice Premier Aleksandr Shokhin. He reported that more money was spent on this previously, although this was not reflected openly in the budget since there was a large number of exchange rates for the ruble for various imported goods. It should be remembered that, to stimulate the import of food, medicines, and childen's goods, the government recently abolished duty on such products.

Voronin: Local Officials Increase Energy Costs

OW0409175292 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1608 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Russian Government is not planning to increase energy prices before the end of the year, however "prices are on the increase and will continue to increase since local authorities themselves have enough authority to gradually increase them and are doing so", according to Russian Supreme Soviet Deputy Chairman Yuriy Voronin who spoke to IF [INTERFAX] on Friday [4 September].

In Voronin's opinion, the "creeping" energy price incraese is due to the fact that since the beginning of the year, production costs have risen in practically all sectors of the economy while energy price levels have "fallen markedly behind, causing an imbalance in price structuring and reproduction in the national economy." Turning to the utilisation of IMF credit loans, Voronin pointed out that "until the economic mechanism within Russia begins to make profits, and until the national economy becomes stable, no external sources will help us". He named accelerated privatisation and "building new financial credit relations" among measures needed to lift the national economy.

Financial Problems in Gas Industry Aired

LD0709163792 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1900 GMT 6 Sep 92

[Report by correspondent V. Vinogradov; from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] At present we have about 50 trillion cubic meters of gas in reserves ready to be exploited, not to mention gas yet to be prospected. Each year new gas deposits are introduced to cover increasing demands and falling gas extraction at old gas deposits. Of these volumes, about 100 billion cubic meters go to the neighboring republics of the former Union, and the same amount goes to West Europe. At the same time, having delivered its supplies to consumers, the state gas concern this year failed to receive 90 billion rubles from its consumers, which has put the concern on the verge of a ruble crash.

All this is happening at a time when every year $2.5-3 billion of net profit obtained from gas sales goes to the state. By a presidential decree, the industry was allowed

to keep 50 percent of its currency profits for development of the industry. It is true, though, that $300-600 billion out of this 50 percent goes every year on purchasing foodstuffs and consumer goods for the industry's workers. This includes everything, from meat to fruit. Moreover, money from this 50 percent is also spent to pay for aircraft delivering these goods to the western and Arctic regions of Siberia. The remainder of the 50 percent is used to purchase pipes and equipment.

Arms Production To Fall 68 Percent in '92

LD0809081692 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0100 GMT 8 Sep 92

[Text] Arms production in Russia will be down 68 percent by the end of this year, (?Yuriy Gluybin), a departmental head at the Ministry of Industry, said on 7 September. He was speaking at a conference on conversion and international cooperation that opened in Moscow. According to Gluybin, civilian products will account for 80 percent of total defense industry output by the end of the year.

Khasbulatov on Problems at Physics Institute

LD0509173892 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1700 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Report by correspondent A.Lutskoy; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Excerpt] Russian Supreme Soviet Chairman Ruslan Khasbulatov is seriously concerned about the problems facing fundamental science and has visited the town of Protvino near Moscow. The Institute of High Energy Physics, one of the largest synchro-phasotron in the world, is situated here. Thousands of scientists work here. It is not a secret that the state of affairs in this industry is far from being simple. All the difficulties that both the country's economy and industry are experiencing at present have their effect on the institute's activity. As for wages, specialists with the highest qualifications who deal with developments of world importance receive on average, it is a joke, 4,000 rubles a month at a time when they are invited with great pleasure to scientific centers in the West, where even a young nuclear physicist is offered a minimum salary of $4,000. The temptation is too great!

[Begin Khasbulatov recording] I would call on them not to be in too much of a hurry to leave. Let us try to make our fatherland and turn it into...[changes thought] to revive the status of a great scientific power, which it used to be. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Scientific Issues

KGB Use of Psychotronic Engineering Reported

LD0309095192

[Editorial Report] Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian at 1425 GMT on 1 September, in a 25-minute Studio Politika "Black Box" feature, presents journalist Irina Bliznyuk and an Ostankino film crew investigating allegations that the KGB developed and used psychotronic generators as a means of affecting and influencing human behavior.

Russian People's Deputy Vitaliy Urazhtsev and Aleksandr Yevstigneyev, head of an independent group of military experts, allege that the results of a July 1991 investigation by the Shchit union of officers, of which Urazhtsev is cochairman, were censored. Russian People's Deputy Igor Bezrukov compares the operations of the KGB with those of security services in the West, which he says are subject to far more stringent controls than the KGB.

The KGB denies ever using electromagnetic radiation, but the U.S. Embassy in Moscow some years ago used special shields over its windows as a protection against bugging and such radiation. The journalist's attempts to interview residents of the block opposite, 18 Novitskiy Bulvar, where some special equipment was discovered after a fire, were fruitless.

Interviewed at the Russian Security Ministry, Deputy Minister Andrey Bykov, says: "Neither the former State Security Committee or its technical services, nor the present Russian Ministry of Security have ever engaged in or developed any such means, nor have they any plans to do so." Bykov denies that the allegations are based on fact.

Following clips of demonstrations by activists of the Committee for Housing Ecology [Komitet Ekologii Zhilishch] against the use of "psychotronic warfare" and "psychotronic fascism" against the populace, Bliznyuk interviews Eduard Naumov, director of the Center for Psychotronics, who comments on his own work and on archive footage of the history of research into experiments on the human brain and the development of generators that can be used to influence human behavior.

The Ostankino crew then visits the Istok scientific production enterprise at the Moscow Oblast town of Fryazino, a plant engaged in military production and until recently secret. Bliznyuk interviews academician Nikolay Devyatkov, consultant to the Istok general director, who has for many years worked on microwave generators for medical use. Devyatkov, surrounded by equipment inscribed as microwave therapy apparatus, explains the origins and uses of microwaves.

Interviewed in his laboratory, surrounded by equipment and English-language posters about dynamic magnetic mapping of the brain, Academician Yuriy Gulyayev,

director of the Institute of Radioengineering and Electronics of the Russian Academy of Sciences, explains the brain's magnetic field. He says he has never worked on instruments that affect human behavioral functions.

An employee of the Russian Defense Ministry's Scientific Research Institute, however, interviewed anonymously, says that work was indeed done on psychoactive weapons, but for use in the type of warfare characteristic of World War II.

The program ends with a visit to the World Spiritual University, which is now operating in Russia using different means of working on the mind for different ends.

Belitskiy on New Satellite Navigation System

LD0509193992 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 0610 GMT 4 Sep 92

[From the "Question Time" program]

[Excerpts] [Announcer] Boris, you promised to return today to a question from Mr. (?Achariu) in Bilaspur, India. He is interested in the types of satellites launched by Russia, a topic undoubtedly of interest to many other listeners as well. You have already spoken of communication satellites and of a new type of radio-carrying satellite. There are probably other types of satellites too, aren't there?

[Belitskiy] Oh! yes of course. For example Russia launches navigation satellites. [passage omitted on general use of navigation satellites]

[Announcer] How high are the orbits of satellites used for navigation purposes?

[Belitskiy] A good question. There is a sort of trade off there. You see, the lower an orbit the easier it is to insert a satellite into it. But at lower orbits you need more satellites. So the optimal altitude appears to be 20,000 km above the earth's surface. The number of satellites needed in such an orbit for worldwide coverage is 20. At present both Russia and the United States are working on such satellite systems, which are intended for both civilian and military uses.

[Announcer] And Boris can you give us some details about the system Russia is developing? What is it called? How many satellites will there be, in what orbits and so on?

[Belitskiy] The system is called Glonass, with a double s at the end. This stands for Global Navigation Satellite System. It is to be deployed in three orbital planes at an altitude of 19,100 km. These will be circular orbits inclined at 64.8 degrees. In each orbit there are to be seven operational satellites plus one reserve satellite. That's 24 satellites in all. The system will enable a user to determine his coordinates, the speed at which he is moving and will provide a time check. The ship, aircraft, or other moving object has to have certain receiving equipment to make full use of the system. This has been called equipment of the "Skipper" type. It will also be able to compute the distance the moving object has covered from a certain point, recommend the course to be followed and indicate the arrival time at the point of destination. The entire "Skippering" set weighs only 22 kg. It is hoped the system will become operational by 1995, although of course the country's present economic difficulties could delay its completion.

[Announcer] Briefly, Boris, how does this compare with the American system?

[Belitskiy] Well, they are basically similar. The American system is called Navstar, Navigating Star. It too is designed to enable any number of mobile users to determine their location at any time of day and in any weather. [passage omitted on brief details about Navstar]

There are good prospects that in line with an agreement signed in 1990 the two systems—Glonass and Navstar—will be used jointly.

New Engine for Maneuvering 'Mir' Reported

LD0209220192 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1700 GMT 2 Sep 92

[Report by correspondent P. Orlov; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer] The most difficult stage of this year's work in the Mir space station is beginning today, and, for our viewers in the European part of the CIS, literally right now.

[Orlov] You can now see one of the planes [ploskostey] of the "Progress" spaceship, which recently docked with the station. It is usually called a "truck," but today it is more like a dump truck. At a command from Earth, a container [tumba], which weighs over 700 kg, is moved out of its body—a new engine for maneuvering the Mir space station. So far, this process is automatic. But beginning tomorrow, two cosmonauts, Anatoliy Solovyev and Sergey Avdeyev, will go out into space and fix the unit to the end of a 14 meter mast, to the very place where the flag of the USSR still remains. [video shows pictures of two cosmonauts working inside space station; then the whole Mir complex; close-up of mast with red flag]

The purpose of the operation is, of course, not so much political as economic. Space fuel has gone up roughly eight times in price, but, with the new engine, designers calculate that they will cut fuel consumption by about one-third when maneuvering the 100-tonne complex. [video shows an underwater simulation exercise; frogmen are maneuvering a large container-style object]

Thus, the construction of the station, which it was at one time intended to either sell or sink, is continuing. It will exist in orbit until 1996. In the immediate future are two weeks of the most difficult near-Earth work in open space, on which we will be reporting in our programs.

Environmental Issues

Damage to Containers of Radioactive Substance

OW0709212292 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1526 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Two containers full of the radioactive substance americium-241 have smouldered in a factory in Mezhdurechensk (Kemerovo region) due to a fire. Fortunately, the containers' air-tight seals were not damaged. The level of radioactivity is normal.

However, the Russian State Emergency Committee has announced that 15 kilograms of mercury had spilled over at the location of the fire and that the area has been cordoned off.

Forest Fires Destroy 1 Million Hectares of Land

LD0809212792 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1454 GMT 8 Sep 92

[By CRIME-PRESS correspondent Pavel Ovchinnikov]

[Text] Moscow September 8 TASS—As many as 20,883 fires in Russian forests and peat bogs engulfed over million hectares of land last summer. They were and are being fought by 2,000 people, 29 aircraft and 300 motor vehicles.

A serious situation has developed in Yakutia, Buryatia, the Krasnoyarsk and Khabarovsk territories, the Vladimir, Irkutsk, Leningrad, Nizhniy Novgorod, Moscow, Pskov and Tver regions.

Fires in Russian forests and peat bogs annually destroy 15-20 per cent of the annual volume of commercial timber felled.

Last year, 17,965 fires destroyed 680,000 hectares of forests, with the damage amounting to 95.6 million roubles.

The CRIME-PRESS NEWS AGENCY learnt at the fire-fighting and rescue service of the Russian Interior Ministry that negligence with fire was the main cause of forest fires (60 per cent of all cases), burning for agricultural purposes (one per cent) and lightnings (three per cent).

The Russian Government recently adopted a decision on measures to protect forests from fires where ministries, departments, governments of republics forming the Russian Federation, the administrations of territories, regions and autonomous entities were instructed to improve the protection of forests from fires.

Decree on Environmental Pollution Penalties

MK0709121592 Moscow MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 4 Sep 92 p 1

[Unattributed report under the "What's New in Russia" column]

[Text] The Russian Federation Government has adopted a decree which establishes the procedure for defining the penalty and its maximum scale for polluting the environment. The document will come into force as of 1 January 1993, and it will be distributed to enterprises, organizations, and foreign juridical and natural persons, who are carrying out any kind of activity on Russian Federation territory.

Environmental Paper Closes Despite Support

PM0809084192 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 4 Sep 92 p 1

[S. Sokolov report under the rubric "Only the Facts": "The Press"]

[Text] There is one less newspaper in the CIS. Journalists on the ecological newspaper SPASENIYE [Salvation] have been told to vacate their premises in infringement of all the contracts of the Russian Federation Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources with the Moscow Property Committee. It is interesting that they did not succeed in saving the newspaper in spite of help from the very "highest" quarters: Russian President Boris Yeltsin, Russian Federation presidential adviser Academician A. Yablokov, and the republic's ecology minister, V. Danilov-Danilyan.

Miscellaneous Issues

Ministry Reports Large-Scale Organized Crime

OW0809191292 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1345 GMT 8 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] At present three thousands of organized criminal structures are acting on the Russian territory. The number of the most active participants accounts for 15 thousands, it has been reported on a briefing at the Russian Internal Ministry. Every third and forth organized criminal group has inter-regional and international ties. "Tour" groups are especially widely spread. They accomplish coordinated "tours" to Moscow and other towns and centers.

According to the Russian Internal Ministry, numerous organized structures appear at the edge of general criminal and economic crime, control over deliveries of drugs, weapons, stolen automobiles and spare parts, and other deficit. 1405 units of weapons were confiscated from members of criminal groups over the first half of this year. Revival of gangsterism is caused by the presence of weapons in the hands of the criminals. According to operative data, about 60 gangs are acting in Russia. Ethnic criminal groups formed on the basis of national communities present significant problem for a number of the Russian regions.

It was pointed out that an unconditional fulfillment of agreements on legal practice, timely reaction for requests

for legal help, exchange of information on organized crime on the whole, and cooperation on special operative issues, rendering mutual assistance in confiscation of profits gained by unlawful activity and other assets received unlawfully must enjoy priority in the law-enforcement agencies of the CIS countries. Notwithstanding certain difficulties, the law-enforcement agencies of the CIS countries find mutual agreement on the issues of fight with the trans-national organized crime, it was pointed out at the briefing.

Supreme Soviet

Deputies Criticize Dispatch of Warships to Gulf

PM0809152792 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 5 Sep 92 p 3

[Statement issued by group of Russian people's deputies; date not given: "For the Honor of the Navy and the Honor of Russia"]

[Text] ROS-INFORMBYURO has circulated a statement by a group of Russian people's deputies which says:

The news of the Russian Government's intention to send two warships to the Persian Gulf as part of the so-called multinational forces to blockade Iraq cannot fail to arouse any feeling other than indignation. Once again the country is being dragged into a large-scale military adventure behind the backs of the people and the Supreme Soviet. On this occasion for the West's strategic interests—primarily those of the United States—which are alien to Russia! The sending of Russian warships to the shores of Iraq completely contradicts the decision of the Second Congress of Russian People's Deputies, which directly prohibits the use of the Russian Armed Forces in the Persian Gulf.

This intention of the government is especially immoral now, when the Army and Navy are not ensuring that they fulfill the main purpose of their existence—to protect Russia's own interests and those of its citizens. Today, when Russia's interests are being flouted and encroached upon by anyone who feels like it, when Russian blood is being spilled in the Dniester region and the Transcaucasus, when Russian Navy sailors and their families are being subjected to humiliation and insults in the Black Sea and the Baltic, and when Coast Guard ships have no fuel to protect Russia's territorial and economic interests in the Pacific and the Kuril islands area, the use of the Russian Navy to blockade Iraq is the height of cynicism.

We know that the decision was made not by the military but by politicians, who are hell-bent on turning Russia into an obsequious adjunct of the West and its soldiers and sailors into cannon fodder for NATO. However, the sailors whom it is intended to send to the Persian Gulf must know, too, that this campaign will not bring new glory to the Russian Navy flag. Today Black Sea Fleet ships are being sent as part of the multinational forces to blockade foreign shores, tomorrow these forces will be used to blockade Russia's shores. Sevastopol must remember the "peacekeeping" operations of similar multinational forces in 1854-1855, and then in 1941.

The use of the Russian Navy for policing operations against a country with which our country still has a Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation which has not been annulled is unworthy and humiliating. We resolutely condemn the use, which has not been authorized by the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet, of the Russian Federation's Armed Forces abroad and demand that this shameful decision by the government be revoked.

[Signed] Russian people's deputies S. Baburin, V. Vorontsov, Yu. Gekht, A. Golovin, V. Isakov, M. Lapshin, N. Pavlov, G. Sayenko, B. Tarasov, M. Tumov.

Lysenko Comments on Georgian-Abkhazian Accord

LD0409180592 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1600 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Text] The agreement reached in Moscow on settling the Georgian-Abkhazian armed conflict is only the first step on the path toward accord. This was stated by Vladimir Lysenko, chairman of the Russian State Committee for Nationalities Policy. He spoke in the Supreme Soviet on 4 September at an extraordinary session of the parliamentary commission on national state structure. Lysenko believes that there is very difficult work ahead in restoring the status quo.

Government Told To Speed Supplies to North

LD0709222792 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 2130 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Text] The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet has instructed the government of the Russian Federation to speed up obligatory supplies of foodstuffs and industrial goods to the Far North areas.

Presidium Says Yeltsin Vetoed 11 Laws

LD0709154892 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1520 GMT 7 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Ivan Novikov]

[Text] Moscow September 7 TASS—Russian President Boris Yeltsin vetoed eleven laws adopted by parliament before it adjourned for holidays, the parliamentary presidium was informed on Monday [7 September].

The laws on defence, on interior troops, on the monetary system, on hard currency regulations and control, on patents were returned back to parliament for further consideration.

However, the president suggested that the law on protecting constitutional bodies of power be cancelled altogether as an unconstitutional one. The law acknowledges inadmissible only those activities which are aimed

against popularly elected bodies of authority, while courts, prosecutors and most of the executive authorities are appointed, but not elected, the president pointed out.

Parliament Presidium Approves Bills

OW0709211392 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1816 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Presidium of the Russian parliament has approved a bill on the public associations of employers. If adopted, a future law will empower employers to form unions, associations, congresses and other organizations without prior permission from government bodies.

The Presidium also approved a bill on government policies in handling radioactive wastes. The bill determines property relations in handling nuclear wastes and distributes powers in that sphere among the authorities of the Russian Federation, of the constituent republics, territories and regions and autonomies and of local self-government bodies.

The Presidium of the Russian parliament submitted to the 5th parliamentary session a resolution on holding at the Defence Ministry of the Russian Federation and experiment in manning the Armed Forces on contract in 1992-1993. The Defence Ministry and Interior Ministry have been recommended to draw up a procedure to man officers' posts in the strategic missile units deployed in Belarus, Kazakhstan and Ukraine by the servicemen of those countries.

The minimum pay for privates (without bonuses) has been set at 2,470 rubles and for sergeants at 3,100-3,300 rubles a month.

Khasbulatov Downplays Problems With Government

LD0709143492 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1403 GMT 7 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Ivan Novikov]

[Text] Moscow September 7 TASS—Russian parliament speaker Ruslan Khasbulatov played down the extent of disagreements with the government and said the coming parliamentary session will work for reforms and civil peace.

Disagreements which sometimes emerge in the process of law-making between the parliament and the government "are highly exaggerated and even artificially inflated", he told the presidium of the Russian parliament which reconvened after holidays on Monday [7 September].

The coming session of the parliament will work for civil peace, public accord, economic and political reforms. "That is its motto", the speaker said, but added that the governmental programme of reforms might not pass smoothly through parliament.

"Serious disagreements are not excluded (to appear) on several aspects of the economic reforms in the process of parliamentary discussions of the draft programme submitted by the government", he stressed.

The session which is to convene on September 22 is to discuss over 260 lawbills and 50 draft resolutions.

"The session will be difficult, but I do not share the ideas, which are constantly repeated and imposed on the public opinion, about a certain contraposition and struggle. It will be genuine work", Khasbulatov said.

The session is to discuss three packages of questions. The major one concerns the legal base for reforms, the second one deals with the federative treaty, while the third one—with the work on the draft of a new constitution.

Committee States No Confidence in Khasbulatov

LD0809154692 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1000 GMT 8 Sep 92

[Text] The Committee for Mass Media of the Russian parliament has expressed its lack of confidence in Ruslan Khasbulatov, chairman of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet. Nikolay Artemyev, our special correspondent, has just contacted us by telephone from the White House.

[Artemyev] Committee Chairman Vyacheslav Bragin informed journalists today of this decision, which was passed by the committee. He said that the basis for this was the issuing of a number of documents by the parliament speaker which violated the Constitution and led to the parliament being turned into a department personally subordinate to the chairman.

The Committee for Mass Media insists on the chairman giving a report to the Supreme Soviet and on the setting up of a special deputies commission to study the accusations against him from a number of deputies and the Committee.

Vyacheslav Bragin also said that yesterday Ruslan Khasbulatov did not allow this issue to be raised at the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, in spite of the fact that this was Bragin's right as the chairman of the Committee.

Newspaper Corrects Khasbulatov Meeting Report

MK0709123992 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 4 Sep 92 p 2

[NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA report under the "In Brief" rubric: "Ruslan Khasbulatov Met with Deputy-Enemies, Not with Friends"]

[Text] In the last edition of NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA (No. 169 of 3 September) an unfortunate misprint was overlooked. In A. Zuychenko's article entitled "Reform on the War Path," it was noted that Russian Parliamentary Speaker Ruslan Kasbulatov allegedly said that he is prepared to leave his post. This took place not at a

meeting with his deputy-friends, as was mistakenly printed in the newspaper, but at a meeting with his deputy-enemies [nedrugi- deputaty], as it was stated in the original article. We offer our apologies to our readers.

Gen Dubynin To Represent President at Session

PM0409122392 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 2 Sep 92 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed report under general headline: "Appointments and Ordinances"]

[Text] By a decree of the president of the Russian Federation, Colonel General Viktor Petrovich Dubynin, chief of the General Staff and Russian Federation first deputy minister of defense, has been appointed official representative of the president of the Russian Federation during the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet's examination of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet draft resolution on carrying out an experiment in the Russian Ministry of Defense involving filling the posts of soldiers, sailors, sergeants, and petty officers on contract.

Filatov Discusses Work of Supreme Soviet

LD0809132192

[Editorial Report] Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian at 1755 GMT on 7 September broadcasts a 65-minute program live from the RESPUBLIKA press center, entitled "Without Retouching", in which Sergey Aleksandrov Filatov, first deputy chairman of the Russian Supreme Soviet, answers questions from journalists about the work of the Supreme Soviet. The program is chaired by Sergey Torchinskiy and Tatyana Krasnova.

The program begins with Filatov making a brief introductory statement, noting that the Russian Supreme Soviet Presidium today discussed preparations for the fifth Supreme Soviet session; there are over 200 issues on the agenda. The Supreme Soviet's main task is to pass laws, he says, "and therefore it is our task, and the task of the leadership of the Supreme Soviet, to create a normal and constructive atmosphere in our Supreme Soviet. Despite all the political passions raging among us, there must be a certain balanced atmosphere there and, above all, there must be results." In two years, he says, the Supreme Soviet has adopted more than 160 laws and over 1,000 various enactments.

A correspondent from MEGAPOLIS EKSPRES then asks Filatov's view on the "latest act of will by Ruslan Khabulatov, the parliamentary speaker, which limits the rights of parliamentary committees and commissions and of a number of top officials in the Supreme Soviet presidium in person. In your view, what is this? Absolute confidence in his own powers, or it is a desperate game of going for broke?"

Filatov replies: "Well, you know, this alarmed all of us quite a lot. The thing that worried me most of all in this situation was that the tradition of administration by command could be revived in a collegiate body such as the Supreme Soviet. Because it seems to me that the work of the leadership of the Supreme Soviet should be directed toward helping and organizing the work of the Supreme Soviet itself; whereas all issues are resolved by the Supreme Soviet and the Congress of People's Deputies. It is a collegiate body, no one can claim to have the right to rule the Supreme Soviet, to rule the committees and commissions, so to speak. Unfortunately, these documents—whether through haste or impulsiveness, I don't know...[Filatov changes thought] Unfortunately, this was the case and took place, although I should point out that this was all rewritten on Saturday—the instruction I mean—and it appears in a different form today. At any rate, it is not at variance with either the legislation or the Constitution or the Supreme Soviet resolutions."

The MEGAPOLIS EKSPRES correspondent then asks: "Sergey Aleksandrovich, can you say whether you regard this somewhat scandalous step by the parliamentary speaker as merely one link in the general chain, alongside the harsh criticism and open opposition of the government on the part of the Civil Union, in statements by Volskiy and Rutskoy, the conferring of great powers upon Skokov, the secretary of the Security Council—that is, what is actually going on is, perhaps, serious preparation for the session or for a Congress of People's Deputies, where the question of both the destiny of Gaydar's reforms and also the membership of the government will be finally decided."

Filatov goes on to say that in his view, "this was not a desperate step—you were linking it with some sort of strengthening of reactionary forces—but I think, or at least I would like to think, that it was a fit of hot temper, a momentary mistake of some sort, so to speak. At least I would like to think so. On the other hand, though, there is a certain tendency here, a sort of destruction of the balance which was created at the fifth Congress when the leadership of the Supreme Soviet was elected. People from all factions were elected to the leadership, and this instruction to some degree destroys this balance. On the one hand it encroaches on the rights of the democratic wing, and on the other hand shows that the chairman definitely inclines toward the right wing."

A RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA correspondent asks about the contradictory positions within the Supreme Soviet on the Kurils: "It is hard to compare the positions of, for instance, Baburin and that self-same Yakunin who recently visited Iturup island and was ready to sell it to the Japanese on the spot. My question is this: Is it possible that a deal on the Kurils might be struck behind parliament's back? Has parliament worked out its final position on this issue, though that is difficult to imagine at the moment, given that the president has 12 or so options—and I don't think parliament knows about these options, either. If there is no general view, than perhaps you could give your personal view on the Kurils problem."

Filatov replies: "First, it is the president's prerogative, of course, because parliament ratifies agreements which he

signs. I think—and I am quite confident—that there will be no deals behind parliament's back, I can be quite definite about that." Filatov goes on to say that there must be differing views in parliament among factions, and each deputy has the right to his own opinion. As for his personal view of the Kurils issue: "My personal point of view is that, you see, from the legal point of view, on 19 December we ratified the agreement of CIS heads of state in which we assumed the obligation to fulfill all agreements and treaties, as a package, which the USSR had concluded. That should be emphasized. On the other hand, though, no one is saying that these agreements should be fulfilled exactly as written, exactly as we took them on: everything has to be worked on. Incidentally, Russia was not a participant, in terms of law, either of the war or of the declaration, or of the process and promises that Gorbachev subsequently gave. We now have to become participants in these agreements, participants in the negotiations and talks and the work, and so on and so forth. So I can say quite definitely that today, given the sociopolitical situation in the country, there should be no decisions on this issue, nor can there be. Further work has to be done by the Japanese side. The pressure from the Japanese side grieves me greatly, of course, because this only increases our people's opposition to any solution of this issue. Pride cannot but get mixed up in this issue when people are in such a difficult economic situation as the Russian people are today." All the available options need to be worked on, he adds.

A PRAVDA correspondent then recalls that many of the former leaders of the former USSR are languishing in the Matroskaya Tishina prison, Lukyanov, Baklanov, and Shenin are in the hospital. What is Filatov's view of recent appeals for humane treatment of these prisoners, the correspondent asks?

Filatov replies that the issue can be resolved only by the court; emotions apart, in a law-governed state their fate is in the hands of the court, and the Supreme Soviet can play no part in it. Asked his view of Procurator Stepankov's publication of material on the State Committee for the State of Emergency in OGONEK while the case is sub judice, Filatov says that, again, the courts must decide.

An IZVESTIYA correspondent asks whether the IZVESTIYA issue was discussed at today's Presidium sitting. It was, Filatov replies, "and committees and commissions were instructed to sort out the question and report back to the next Presidium sitting." According to the law, Filatov says, the State Property Committee has the right to resolve such issues; the current struggle over the sponsorship of IZVESTIYA does no one any credit.

Another IZVESTIYA correspondent asks Filatov about the implementation of democratic traditions within the Supreme Soviet, or is it merely a personal instrument of the chairman of the Supreme Soviet? Filatov says that this issue must be resolved very, very soon. It is incumbent on committees and commissions to look into the Khasbulatov issue and to check whether there is any truth in what is being said about him.

Filatov is then asked by a MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI correspondent about the metamorphosis Khasbulatov started to undergo when he found himself in Brezhnev's apartment. "He started to have difficulties in hearing his opponents. He announced that he was writing a book." So, the correspondent says, do not you feel that you are partially responsible for overseeing Khasbulatov's changes to the worse and why have you not protested Khasbulatov's behavior? Filatov says that he would not like to discuss Khasbulatov, he would rather reply to questions concerning his own work. "Of course, I feel guilty," Filatov adds, "there is no doubt about that." He goes on to say: "But let's not dwell on this topic. I can tell you that we had a talk with this particular group of deputies at the Presidium session that took place today, and we agreed that in a week or two we would talk about the work of the Presidium and the Supreme Soviet in general, about its organization. Let us leave it to the Presidium for the time being."

A KOMMERSANT correspondent asks Filatov about what chances the Russian Supreme Soviet has of surviving. Filatov says that the most important thing the Supreme Soviet can do now is to work. "This is the most important thing we can do," he says, "and for the sake of it we should find consensus, and should find a way of agreeing on all issues. We should work out mechanisms for balancing up the presidential and the legislative power. We need balances. We need to balance the system. If it is not a balanced system, the president has no other way but to call on society. We must avoid having the electors tackle our problems. In my view, this might be the greatest tragedy so far, unless I were to mention the fact that there might be another tragedy, although I do not want to believe this, that is, if suddenly we reject in a legislative sense the market and the economic reform we are currently implementing in the country." Filatov adds that the probability of parliament abruptly changing its course is quite small.

A Radio Liberty correspondent asks Filatov about the federation treaty. Does the parliament of the Russian Federation understand that because of its policy regarding the North Caucasus—the chairman of the Supreme Soviet evicting Chechen people from Moscow hotels and much more dangerous precedents of criminal proceedings being instituted against the Confederation of Mountain Peoples of the Caucasus—the federation treaty might be denounced and that the federation is in danger?

Filatov replies that, of course, the Russian Supreme Soviet understands that.

The Radio Liberty correspondent goes on to ask: "Why does it so happen that when volunteers set out for the Dniester region, there are no disciplinary follow-up actions whatsoever. Whereas when volunteers go to Abkhazia, from the territory of North Caucasus, as it

were, a court action is brought, and the Kremlin starts harassment and threats? How do you interpret this?"

Filatov replies that Chechniya, where the introduction of the state of emergency led to the whole population arming itself, has created an unhappy precedent. "One must be very cautious, even gentle, in discussing these problems in North Caucasus. Everything there is boiling hot; it is painful. The danger is not only in the fact that the formation went there, as it is, armed, but that they will return armed, which is a big danger," thus creating an even more dangerous crime environment. Up to 50 percent of law violations in Sochi "come from that side," says Filatov, and do not fall under the Russian legislature, to the great dismay of the population.

The Radio Liberty correspondent suggests that the Russian leadership provokes those situation. Filatov replies that in his view, "Russia was framed by external forces who wanted to drag it into a war, a real one." Hopefully, those forces have failed, he adds.

A ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA correspondent says that the Supreme Soviet is being lobbied by hands-on managers to exercise more rigorous control over the government's activities, in tax policy, for example. The correspondent also suggests that Filatov should give his view of the government's tax policy, whether it is good for producers or just makes middlemen richer.

Filatov says that he has been monitoring this problem for six months, and has found that the tax system is highly inadequate, stifling production. The value-added tax is often confused with the turnover tax, and tax collection is very poor. However, it appears that the government seems to be unable to concentrate at this problem at the moment. "Plus, we seem to be undertaxing a great deal. If we taxed properly, especially the trade, where there was no sales tax at all, then we could lower the taxes of course," Filatov said.

The ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA then said: "You are a member of the Security Council. This body is covered in mystery. Can you tell us what it is about, specifically?"

Filatov laughs and replies: "You see, the Security Council has been set up in accordance with the Constitution, and with the law on security. I believe that this is a pivotal solution for any state, especially for our state. Here the question is of the security of an individual, of the society, of the country as a whole. This entails not only military security but all aspects of security: social, political, especially ecological, and economic. That is what we have got to set up, a structure, mechanisms—so that in, let us say, in a few dozen years, nobody would tell us that one cannot breathe in this city, for example, that all is full of smog and so on and so forth.

"In a big way, that is what the Security Council should think of, so that our people, future generations, will not reproach us for having left them a country sullied and besmirched. This is the main thing. But this is still to come, and we are a long way away from it as yet, especially because all of this will consume vast financial resources. So, today the Security Council deals, by and large, with ad hoc questions. I can tell you for a fact that it is thanks to the Security Council, whose decisions take the shape of presidential decrees or instructions, that the situation in the Dniester region and Ossetia is, in fact, being normalized. The Security Council has adopted, although somewhat belatedly, decisions on Abkhazia. Whatever is being done, is done in light of the decisions adopted by the Security Council.

"What is the advantage? Decisions are made, so to speak, in an all-around way. Everyone concerned to any degree, takes part: the military, politicians, economists, security, diplomats, and the Foreign Ministry—everybody. As a rule, the solution therefore involves all aspects.

"As regards relations between the Security Council and the government, I believe these are two different bodies. Even judging by what I have told you about the Security Council here, you can see it tackles problems that are not the government's job—for the present, at least."

A NEW YORK TIMES correspondent asks: "How can you resolve this conflict between the Central Bank, which is a creature of parliament, and the executive power. Is this a constitutional crisis underneath this problem? And if you agree, how can you resolve that?"

Filatov says he knows for sure that there is no conflict and that Gaydar thinks so too. "The other thing is that decisions on mutual accounts have taken up a lot of time, and this has slowed everything considerably. But I can say that of 3 trillion, I think, of these accounts that have not been done, about 1 trillion remain. So, the process is going all right. There is a certain consensus, I believe. Many of Gaydar's conditions, if not all of them, have been accepted by the Central Bank."

The same correspondent then brings up the problem of inflation that will follow the consensus. "Do you think that control over monetary policy should be split in this fashion?" he asks.

Filatov says he does not see any other way out. At least, the solution is achieved—the bad debts will be redirected into a different market.

Filatov is then asked by a NEW YORK TIMES correspondent whether the Gaydar government will last beyond the end of the year. Filatov replies: "It is always very difficult to forecast, but I think that the government will survive. If reforms live, the government will live. If this government lives, these reforms will live. There have been mistakes, and it is impossible and unnecessary to conceal them. They should be revealed so they will not be repeated. As for those who want to overthrow the government, I said it in the very beginning that there are forces that support the government, and there are forces that want to overthrow it in order to head the country themselves. But it will also depend on the people and on to what decree they support the president, the government, and these reforms."

A KURANTY correspondent asks Filatov about a rumor that the present power structure will only last about two more weeks. Are there any grounds for such rumors, he asks? Filatov says that in the two years of this government's existence rumors have always had it that the government did not have long to live. He adds: "One must get used to it and treat it calmly."

Tatyana Krasnova then cites some routine facts from Filatov's biography, noting that he was elected deputy of the Russian Federation in 1990. He was appointed secretary of the Supreme Soviet Presidium in 1991 and elected first deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet at the Fifth Congress of People's Deputies. He is also a permanent member of the Security Council of the Russian Federation.

Asked about the mistakes he most regrets, Filatov says that he regrets not saying what he thinks when this or that situation arises. "As you can see, I think that one of the reasons for the situation that is taking shape within parliament is evidently not saying anything to the audience."

A MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI correspondent asks Filatov about how sure he is that his electors will reelect him. Filatov says that he is working hard on his promises. A PRAVDA correspondent asks Filatov about whether he is going to assume Khasbulatov's post. Filatov replies: "I can tell you very firmly that I am not preparing to take over this post and I will not become speaker of parliament."

An IZVESTIYA correspondent asks Filatov about the possibility of the repetition of the Tajik variant in Russia. Filatov says: "You know, believe me, a lot is being done, a lot is being done in order to have permanent interaction with the president. The president himself is also doing a lot. He meets with political factions and the leadership. He had a meeting with Ruslan Imranovich Khasbulatov today. They also discussed a number of issues. The government is now meeting once a month on a regular basis. But we do not have a law on obedience in our country. It worries me very much."

A Radio Liberty correspondent asks Filatov what he would do if by any chance he is not reelected deputy of the Russian Federation. Filatov says that he might go back to his scientific work. A KURANTY correspondent asks if Filatov still feels loyal to Democratic Russia, which nominated him in the first place. Filatov replies that he still feels very loyal to Democratic Russia, but for the term of the office all members of the leadership do not take part in the work of their factions.

A NEW YORK TIMES correspondent asks: "If Mr. Yeltsin were to call a referendum on the dissolution of parliament to elect a new one in more democratic times, what do you think the result would be?" Filatov replies: "First of all, the president now has no right to announce a referendum. Second, as far as I know, Boris Nikolayevich has no plans to announce a referendum of this sort."

A ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA correspondent asks Filatov about the possibilities of uniting Russia. Filatov says that everything depends on economic successes.

Sergey Torchinskiy then concludes the program by thanking Filatov and the journalists for taking part in the program.

International Affairs

Kravchuk Meets With Former Israeli Official

AU0909125392 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1200 GMT 9 Sep 92

[Text] On 8 September, Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk met in Kiev with Israeli ex-Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. The independent Ukrainian state, is, in fact, writing a new page in the relations between our countries, stressed Ukraine's leader. The State of Israel is among those states to which we offer priority development. [as heard] There are quite a number of citizens in that country who formerly lived on Ukrainian land. Today, we feel that if a person wants to leave for Israel, he is welcome to do so. If he wants to return to Ukraine—there are no obstacles. We have adopted the law on minorities, and we will do everything to make the life of representatives of small peoples just as good as that of indigenous Ukrainian residents. As concerns the State of Israel, pointed out Ukraine's president, we are interested in creating interstate relations that will ensure mutual advantage. Contacts are being made between the Ukrainian Parliament and Israel's Knesset, and diplomatic relations are being established.

Israel's ex-prime minister gave a high rating to the steps made by Ukraine toward strengthening mutual understanding between the two countries. [Moscow INTERFAX in English at 0951 GMT on 9 September adds: "Shamir also had talks with Vice-Chairman of the Ukrainian parliament Vladimir Grinyov and Ukrainian Foreign Minister Anatoliy Zlenko, and met with representatives of the Ukrainian and Kiev Jewish public organizations."]

Zlenko's Visit to Romania 'Unblocked' Relations

LD0909093292 Kiev Ukrayinske Telebachennya Television Network in Ukrainian 1600 GMT 8 Sep 92

[No video available]

[Text] Today at the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry press center a briefing was held for Ukrainian and foreign journalists. The results of the visit by Anatoliy Zlenko, head of our foreign political department, to Romania were discussed. Information was given about his meeting with leaders of the neighboring state and the documents which were signed, in particular the consulate convention and the treaty on issues of cooperation in the sphere of culture, science, and education. On the whole, the visit of the first official delegation of Ukraine to Romania, as was stressed at the briefing, has unblocked relations between the states and has brought the bilateral cooperation to a new positive level.

Defense Negotiations With Bulgaria Begin in Kiev

AU0809134292 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1000 GMT 8 Sep 92

[Text] On 8 September, negotiations started in Kiev between the Defense Ministries of Ukraine and Bulgaria. As we already reported, the Bulgarian delegation is headed by (?Lyuben Popivanov), deputy chief of staff of the Bulgarian Armed Forces. A final text of the draft agreement between the military departments of the two countries must be elaborated during the negotiations, and draft protocols dealing with individual trends of military development must be prepared. In particular, they will provide for an exchange of experience in the development of the armed forces and consultations on disarmament issues.

Morozov, Defense Delegation Pay Visit to France

LD0609212492 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1900 GMT 5 Sep 92

[Text] A three-day official visit of the defense minister of Ukraine to France has ended. During a meeting in the French Defense Ministry, Kostyantyn Morozov held tete-a-tete and delegation-level talks with Pierre Joxe, the French defense minister.

The delegation of the Ukranian Defense Ministry visited the operations center of the French Armed Forces. The situation in the former Yugoslavia was jointly examined.

Members of the delegation acquainted themselves with the organization and practical activity of a special purpose sub-unit of the National Gendarmerie in Satory. The visit is seen as a beginning of cooperation for the two European countries' military departments.

Foreign States' Debts to Former USSR Assessed

AU0709093492 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 28 Aug 92 p 3

[First installment of article by Mykhaylo Shvayka, candidate of economic sciences and deputy chairman of the Supreme Council Commission for Questions of Economic Reform and Management of the National Economy: "Return to Europe: With Debts Instead of Dowry"]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted]

3. Who and How Much Owes Us

Who, in the past, commanded our labor and where our resources were directed? In 1989, the indebtedness of socialist countries to the Soviet Union amounted to 43.8 billion rubles [R], including that of Cuba—R15.5 billion, Mongolia—R9.5 billion, Vietnam—R9.1 billion, Poland—R5 billion, North Korea—R2.2 billion, and so on.

The indebtedness of Third World countries amounted to $67.5 billion, including that of India—$14.3 billion, Syria—$10.8 billion, Iraq—$6.1 billion, Afghanistan—

$4.9 billion, Ethiopia—$4.5 billion, Algeria—$4 billion, Angola—$3.2 billion, South Yemen—$3 billion, Egypt—$2.7 billion, Libya—$2.7 billion, North Yemen—$1.5 billion, Nicaragua—$1.3 billion, Cambodia—$1.4 billion, and so on.

The Ukrainian people paid a high price for somebody else's imperial ambitions and for the striving to create a world empire and draw new people into its sphere with the help of financial support. Those who relied upon this friendly assistance could not tear himself away from the clutches.

If this indebtedness has been divided and our share specified, we could get into direct contact with the states and begin work on the return of the debts. A part of them could be sold.

The property of the former USSR abroad is also quite extensive. Experts estimate it to exceed $45 billion. This is apart from the hundreds of billions of dollars of the party's money. These are international reserves, more specifically, money in accounts. There is also gold amounting to 9.1 million ounces. By the end of the year, these international reserves will increase to $80 billion.

Official Criticizes Russia's Debt Policy

AU0709104292 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 29 Aug 92 p 3

[Second installment of article by Mykhaylo Shvayka, candidate of economic sciences and deputy chairman of the Supreme Council Commission for Questions of Economic Reform and Management of the National Economy: "Return to Europe: With Debts Instead of Dowry"]

[Excerpt]

4. Debts Have Been Equally Divided, and Russia Has Taken the Assets

Russia is trying to inherit the entire property of the former USSR and is lavishly presenting us with debts alone. The neighbor simply fails to get out of the habit of being a "big brother" and is continuing to try and suppress the rights of all peoples, ignoring civilized forms of coexistence and hoping that old times and orders may return. Ukraine has undertaken to pay 16.7 percent of the debts of the former USSR. In addition to this, Ukraine will also pay 20 percent of the debts of those republics that have refused to repay them. The sum of debts to be repaid by Ukraine is great and reaches $2.2 billion a year. It is with such arrears that we are joining the world community. Without having taken loans worth a cent, we have become one of the greatest debtors to the world. We have acquired these "arrears" (debts) as a legacy and as a gift. No matter how hard a mother's life is in Ukraine, she tries to prepare some sort of dowry for her daughter. It is a pity that the new successors have not assimilated this custom of ours.

Even though much of Ukraine's capital is directed toward repaying the debts, not a single cent has been invested for clearing off our indebtedness. Our capital goes to clearing off Russia's indebtedness, because Russia has appropriated the institutions of the External Economic Bank and is using them. The debts that we have to repay are also anonymous. If they were divided, then enterprises and other types of property could be directed to clearing off the debts. Ten days after dividing the debts, an agreement on dividing the property would have been signed. However, Russia is deliberately delaying this process. We have not received either buildings for diplomatic missions or currency reserves. [passage omitted]

Trade Figures With Former USSR States Noted

LD0609212892 Kiev Ukrayinske Radio First Program Network in Ukrainian 1000 GMT 6 Sep 92

[Text] Proof that Ukraine has a responsible attitude toward implementing agreements signed with states of the former USSR are the proposals elaborated by the External Economic Relations and Trade Ministry and the Economics Ministry regarding delivery of consumer goods for this year. In accordance with the proposals, 15.2 billion rubles worth of such goods have been exported to nearby foreign countries over the period of half a year, and more than 17 billion rubles worth have been imported.

Our state has fulfilled nearly half of such obligations during this period, while our trading partners have fulfilled 38 percent.

Envoy Demands Danube Shipping Safety Guarantees

LD0509165592 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0900 GMT 5 Sep 92

[Text] Ukraine Foreign Ministry representative in Belgrade, Vadim Primachenko, has made a verbal statement to the Yugoslav Foreign Ministry. He has expressed Ukraine's concern in connection with the incidents in which the Ukrainian motor ship "Ulyanovsk" was fired at on 18 August and in which a Ukrainian barge blew up a mine on 20 August. The representative stressed that until now, no information was received from the Yugoslav authorities with regards to an investigation into the firing at the motor ship "Voroshilovgradm," as a result of which two members of the crew died, nor is it known whether anyone was punished for this.

Vadim Primachenko pointed out the need for guarantees of the safety of navigation on the Yugoslav stretch of the Danube and for taking necessary measures with regards to incidents with Ukrainian motor ships and barges.

National Affairs

Fokin on Economy; Claims No Reason To Resign Yet

PM0909121192 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
8 Sep 92 Morning Edition p 3

[Report by Lyudmila Dneprova: "Ukrainian Premier Has Put Prices in Order and Does Not Intend to Resign"]

[Text] Milk prices rose in Kiev in September by 25-40 percent. However, having held for three days, they fell again, thanks to the prime minister's intervention. The cabinet of ministers has elaborated a new plan of actions to deepen economic reforms.

Premier Vitold Fokin learned that milk had become dearer at the same time as readers of VECHERNIY KIYEV, as he admitted in his 4 September press conference, and at once pointed to the culprit—the state administration, in the person of Ivan Saliy, the president's representative in Kiev. It was he who had ordered the price increases, but not on milk, but on glass containers for it, whereas only the Economics Ministry is allowed to do this. After a conversation with the premier, the president's representative had himself, decided to repeal his former order, without waiting for a decree from the premier.

The premier had restored justice, but this did not save him from a question which has dogged him in recent times: When is he going to resign? This could happen in two cases, Fokin announced: if the premier feels that "harm is being inflicted on the people by his actions or those of the government which he heads," or when Vitold Fokin feels he does not enjoy the confidence of the president. He sees no sign yet of either of these instances; on the contrary—the premier, according to his own claim, has "managed to create a government of national consensus—there are many people in the cabinet who came from public organizations."

Over the last six weeks, while parliamentarians have been on vacation, the government has been engaged in its direct duties, making profitable use of the respite" (presumably from attacks by Supreme Soviet). In this time, one more plan has seen the light of day—actions and measures to deepen economic reforms in Ukraine. The Cabinet of Ministers proposes reducing state capital investments and funding of the conversion of the defense complex. Substantial changes are planned in the tax system. There is a proposal to tax not income, as is done at the moment, but profits, and to lower value added tax from 28 percent to 20 percent. The Cabinet of Ministers plans also to reduce the tax rate on brokerage activity from 75 to 35 percent. However, the premier stressed, this is only a draft, and obtains the force of law only after its adoption by Supreme Soviet. The Council of National Security intends to reorganize the state tax service and create a tax policy.

For journalists who refer too often to Russia with the hint that reform is moving faster there, the premier remarked: "Much that is interesting and valuable is happening in Russia, but it still, so far, bears the character merely of good intentions." All the same, Vitold Fokin acknowledged that things are much harder for Ukraine. Russia, having inherited from the Soviet Union all its ministries and departments, "appropriated all the intellect of the former country also, and Ukraine has to start from scratch, but does not have the specialists or the intellect."

Nevertheless, there are successes, and the premier cited as among them the entry of Ukraine into the IMF and the World Bank, but at once criticized these organizations. Their demands on Ukraine, in Fokin's view, are "strictly theoretical." "They want us to get rid of inflation, stop printing money, and start stabilizing the economy," he remarked. However, this reminded the premier of a doctor telling his patient: You get better first, and then I will cure you."

At the moment, Ukraine is on the road to recovery, and this road is paved with the lack of coordination and with the contradictions in the actions of those who are trying to cure it.

Premier Fokin Interviewed on Recent Strikes

PM0809150792 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
8 Sep 92 p 2

[Report by Viktor Drozd: "Who Dared Not Clear the Strike?"]

[Text] Lvov—For yet another day, the mass media and politicians at all levels in Ukraine are seemingly consumed by just one question: Who is responsible for the scandal, that is to say, who started the strike that lasted less than two full days, and for what purpose? In the art of conjuring up phantoms, the fortune-tellers' imagination brooks no limits on this occasion. To hear them, it was an "untimely," "provocative" strike "imposed on Ukraine from without," a letting off of steam "organized" "from above" and turned off "from above." However, more than anything, it seems these politicians and obliging journalist are greatly incensed by the fact that "someone" dared to take the initiative away from them by "not clearing" the strike with Rukh [Ukraine People's Movement for Perestroyka], the Ukrainian Republican Party, and other democratic Ukrainian organizations.

Clearly, they conjecture, President Kravchuk is working in concert with the "ringleaders," why else should he suddenly have promised not to punish the strikers if they resume work while their leaders again sit down at the negotiating table with the government....

The propaganda barrage unleashed on people makes many of them (as I have had occasion to witness) to wonder wittingly or otherwise: What is the government actually doing now, why is it lagging behind events? I put these questions to Ukrainian Prime Minister V. Fokin.

[Fokin] You may, of course, not believe it, but it can be said that for the first time this year, while the deputies were in summer recess, the cabinet had the opportunity to get on with its job and carry out its direct duty calmly and without constant sniping. Which meant first and foremost, organizing the harvest. I can now say with certainty that Ukraine will be provided with bread and we will not have to purchase grain abroad. Moreover, a package of priority measures designed to improve substantially Ukraine's economic position through the end of the current year and next year has been prepared for the next Supreme Soviet session. I primarily have in mind the deepening of economic reforms, changing tax policy and pricing, providing incentives for brokering, renewing credit policy, and encouraging entrepreneurs. All this is designed to make people's lives easier. We will thoroughly discuss the mechanism for introducing these blueprints with the president and his representatives at local level. This everyday, unseen work by the government does not please those politicians who are playing their own game, as it removes the cards from their hands—they, after all, count themselves the sole champions of the people. It is a pity that PRAVDA, in two articles published on 4 September, played into the hands of precisely these forces....

[Drozd] Does that mean that you won't be taking PRAVDA now?

[Fokin] Everyone makes mistakes.... I have subscribed to PRAVDA since I was a youth, and I have never considered giving it up....

Outcome of Strikes Viewed

PM0909110192 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 5 Sep 92 p 1

[Report by O. Musafirova: "Who Won the Strike in Ukraine?"]

[Text] Kiev—On the evening of 3 September, an event occurred which decisively influenced the strike. The central strike committee received a statement from the Ukrainian president. According to the committee the statement is handwritten, so there can be no doubt about it. L. Kravchuk wrote: The cessation of the strike must be a condition of talks and the solution of all questions. He guaranteed that the lawsuit would be withdrawn from the Ukrainian Supreme Court and that economic sanctions would not be applied if the strikers immediately gave official notification of the end of their action. The Consultative Council of Free Trade Unions met the president halfway. One hour later wage rate agreements were signed.

"We won this round," Sergey Klimov, deputy chairman of the independent miners' unions of Ukraine, believes. The victory extends mainly to those miners who demanded not just the automatic raising of pay but a change in the pay concept. Henceforth the miners' wages will not be directly dependent on the amount of coal extracted but will be fixed.

The air traffic controllers were less fortunate. They have not gotten the figure they were seeking—30,000—but the talks with the Cabinet of Ministers on this subject have not ended yet. The Ukrainian economy has also been affected by the strike. For example, one day without work on the railroad cost 175 million rubles [R] while in the same period Borispol airport lost 3.3 million coupons and $90,000. The smashed windows in the waiting lounges, the broken furniture, the heart attacks, the nervous stress, and the other accompanying details are not taken into account because there are no figures for them. As promised, the Cabinet of Ministers' law suit has been withdrawn.

As always, the military were called in to help. While the civilian air traffic controllers were taking an enforced break their counterparts from the Air Force were monitoring the safety of those flights that did take off and reported back to their commander, General Valeriy Vasilyev, in person. Thus there were no accidents.

Donetsk Minister 'Outraged' by Assembly Statement

LD0609211992 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1900 GMT 5 Sep 92

[Text] A statement by the Ukrainian National Assembly with regard to the strike, which took place on the initiative of the Free Trade Unions, outraged Donetsk miners. In it, the government of Ukraine was instructed to use every measure envisaged by the law against provocateurs and stressed the readiness of the Ukrainian National Self-Defense Formations to render assistance to law enforcement bodies in bringing to book those that are guilty. The Ukrainian National Assembly apologized to the Free Trade Unions in advance for the inconveniences prepared for them.

A statement, published today, which the miners adressed to the president and the government, law enforcement bodies, local authorities, mass media, and also to inhabitants of Donetsk and all of Ukraine, became a reply. This statement reads, in particular: In case radical measures are not taken by bodies and officials authorized for that, the miners themselves will be forced to take measures necessary, according to our conviction, to put an end to similar incidents and to the activities of these illegal formations. Anxiety is also expressed in the document in regards to extremist actions of Ukrainian nationalists acting on behalf of the Ukrainian National Assembly, the Ukrainian National Socialist Association, and other organizations which propagate and revive in Ukraine traditions of fascism in the Ukrainian way.

Only 59 Percent of State Grain Order Fulfilled

LD0809090292 Kiev Ukrayinske Telebachennya Television Network in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 7 Sep 92

[No video available]

[Text] At the moment, the grain procurement situation worries not only leaders and specialists, but the whole

population of Ukraine which waits for next winter without particular optimism. The routine operative information of the Ukrainian Grain Products Ministry does not give reason for happiness either, since it is not much different from the previous one. Up to now, only 59 percent of the planned quantity of grain of the new harvest has been sold to the state and the rate of the grain procurement remains rather slow.

Harvest Concludes in Lugansk Oblast

LD0909043292 Kiev Ukrayinske Telebachennya Television Network in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 8 Sep 92

[Text] We have an opportunity to start our program today with good news. The peasants of Lugansk oblast have collected the early grain from the last hectares. A total of 1.663 million tonnes—more than 160,000 tonnes than last year—have been threshed. The harvest is over. The state has received 580,000 tonnes—6 percent more than the standing state order for grain.

Agriculture Minister on Plans To Sell Grain Abroad

LD0509164392 Kiev Ukrayinske Radio First Program Network in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 5 Sep 92

[Text] Ukraine can already sell grain abroad this year. Such certainty was expressed by Vasyl Tkachuk, agriculture minister of the Republic, in an interview in the newspaper UKRAINA MOLODA [Young Ukraine]. He repeated his prognosis that our state will not only export bread, but all agricultural products produced in Ukraine.

In the near future, eastern countries may become buyers of Ukrainian grain, sugar, oil, and butter. However, in the opinion of the minister, at the present time, it is necessary for peasants and the government of Ukraine to come to a mutual trust. Otherwise, part of the grain of this year's harvest could be lost.

Ministry Optimistic Despite Consumer Hardships

AU0809094792 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 1 Sep 92 p 4

[Commentary by Yakiv Sverdlovyna: "We Have Tightened Our Belts and Turned Our Pockets Inside Out"]

[Text] According to Statistics Ministry estimates, during the first half of the current year, the cost of the consumer basket increased by a factor of eight, whereas wages—by a factor of four. The price of boiled sausage has increased 30-fold, that of pork, chicken, frankfurters, butter, and cheese—by a factor ranging between 17 and 24, wheat flour—23-fold, sugar—13-fold, and bread and pastry—by a factor between 13 and 16. We have tightened our belts and turned our pockets inside out, but this has not halted the steady impoverishment of our diet: The consumption of meat and dairy products has decreased by 11 percent, that of butter and cheese—by 23 percent, fish products—by 41 percent, and fruit—by 25 percent, something that has, for certain reasons, could only please sanitary engineers.

On an empty stomach, one can hardly think about comfort or good service. The volumes of purchasing foodstuffs and services have decreased, accordingly, by 36 and 28 percent. However, not everything is so gloomy in our life. The economy has made us happy by its seven-months fetus: The decrease of the rates of production has stopped.

It is believed at the Economics Ministry that the "baby" will be healthy.

Military Cutting Back on Educational Facilities

LD0909105792 Kiev UKRINFORM in Russian 1933 GMT 8 Sep 92

[By UKRINFORM correspondent Nikolay Zayka]

[Text] Kiev, 8 Sep—The implementation of the concept of military education of the Ukrainian Defense Ministry started this September. The concept envisages, in particular, reduction of the military educational establishments stationed in the republic from 34 to 9. There will also be nine military lycees created for training future military specialists according to the profile. The first has already started functioning in Lvov. Apart from that, it is envisaged to train another 25 percent of officers of the Ukrainian Armed Forces in civil higher educational establishments. All the military higher educational establishments of the republic will belong to the state. This was announced by Major General Yuriy Prokofev, head of the directorate of military education of the Ukrainian Defense Ministry, at a news conference in Kiev today for Ukrainian and foreign journalists.

A lot of attention was paid at the news conference to the issue raised regarding transformation of the Black Sea higher naval and the Sevastopol military engineers schools into the Naval Institute of the Naval Forces of Ukraine. This issue is provocative, stated Major General Prokofev. It has been incited by certain officials. All the units and subunits stationed in the republic are under Ukraine's jurisdiction. The schools in Sevastopol are no exception. They never were and are not part of the organizational and staff structure of the Black Sea Fleet. As for Admiral Igor Kasatonov, commander of the fleet, by his actions towards the members of the call-up commission of the Ukrainian Defense Ministry, 'who visited the Black Sea higher naval school and the provisional acting head of the school who had been appointed, he breached both the laws of Ukraine and its agreements with Russia concerning the Fleet, and therefore deserves dismissal from his post.

Defense Ministry Examines Formation of Air Forces

PM0909105592 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 5 Sep 92 p 2

[Vladimir Kaushanskiy report under the "Direct Line" rubric: "Soon There Will Be No Military Districts in Ukraine. Instead There Will Be Air Defense Forces"]

[Text] Kiev, 4 Sep—A routine session of the Defense Ministry collegium in Kiev examined questions connected with the military reform. As is well known, in accordance with the defense concept approved by parliament, the troop grouping stationed in Ukraine is being significantly reduced and subjected to structural changes. That is the aim of the plan approved by the collegium for the creation of the Southern and Western Operational Commands on the basis of the Odessa and Carpathian Military Districts respectively, and the reform of their formations and units. Another plan has also been approved creating a new branch within the Ukrainian Armed Forces—the Air Defense Forces. They will be formed by merging and reforming the air forces and the air defense forces.

Supreme Council Regulates Press Accreditation

AU0709144992 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1300 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Text] Those news media who wish to have correspondents accredited at the Crimean parliament will have to guarantee payment of overhead expenses. This regulation has been approved by the Crimean Supreme Council Presidium.

The document states that publications are allowed to accredit one representative at the parliament. A letter guaranteeing payment of expenses associated with the correspondent's work in the Supreme Council is required. Temporary accreditation is also possible at a cost to be determined.

The Presidium has the right to deny accreditation to a journalist if the parliament leadership does not like him [yakshcho vin ne spodobayetsya kerivnytstvu parlamenta].

Kravchuk Issues Directive on Legal Foundation

AU0609192592 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 29 Aug 92 p 2

["Directive" issued by President Leonid Kravchuk "on the Association of Ukrainian Lawyers and the Ukrainian Legal Foundation" in Kiev on 26 August]

[Text] To ensure suitable conditions for implementing legal reform in Ukraine:

1. To support the initiative of the Association of Ukrainian Lawyers and of the Ukrainian Legal Foundation regarding the creation by them in Ukraine of a library of juridical literature, a publishing house for juridical literature, a Center for Legal Education, and a Center for International Conferences and Symposiums on Law.

2. Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers must prepare and submit for consideration to Ukraine's Supreme Council, proposals on possibilities of exempting the Ukrainian Legal Foundation, as an organization whose activity is charitable in character, from taxes and duties, in accordance with the established procedure,.

3. I.M. Saliy, Ukrainian presidential representative in Kiev, must consider, in accordance with the established procedure, the question of providing the Ukrainian Legal Foundation with premises for housing its administrative bodies.

L. Kravchuk, Ukraine's president

Kiev, 26 August 1992

Belarus

Grain Harvest Successful; Potato Crop Poor

PM0809142192 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Sep 92 Morning Edition p 2

[Mikhail Shimanskiy report: "Belarus Will Have Grain But No Potatoes"]

[Text] Minsk—The republic's state grain silos have already received almost 1.5 million tonnes of grain—considerably more volume than at the same time last year.

The target for the sale of grain to the state has been 74 percent fulfilled. This was reported by the Belarusian State Committee for Statistics. The farmers' concern that the current unprecedented prolonged drought would "kill" the grain fortunately proved groundless. The yield considerably exceeded last year's. Farmers obtained an average of 31.2 quintals of grain per hectare as against last year's 28.7 quintals.

However, things are bad in regards to potatoes. Where is the harvest going to come from if the tubers have been lying in parched soil, as though in ashes? So in Belarus, the potato republic, its famous potatoes are already high- priced.

Trade Union Leader Warns of Social Conflicts

LD0809195192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0828 GMT 8 Sep 92

[By BELINFORM correspondent Valentina Menshikova for TASS]

[Text] Minsk September 8 TASS—There might be social conflicts in Belarus this Autumn, Vladimir Goncharik, the chairman of the Belarusian Federation of Trade Unions, told BELINFORM. The decline of production continues in Belarus. The national income has already dropped by 14 per cent this year, and there are no prospects for economic invigoration in Belarus in near future.

"There are ten thousand unemployed registered at labour markets in Belarus. This does not seem much if one considers that some 4.5 million people work in the Belarusian national economy", Goncharik said. "But many collectives work three or four days a week. Thousands of people are on leave without pay. So there is covert unemployment."

Goncharik said that trade unions are critical of the government's programme for economic stabilisation. The Federation of Trade Unions declares that mass unemployment should be averted, while the government plans allow for its increase. The trade unions are not given optimism by the tendency to cut social expenditures. Paid services limit the access of many people to education, culture, physical culture, Goncharik said.

"Forseeing all this, we sent our proposals to the programme of the Council of Ministers", Goncharik said. "The Federation of the Trade Union specifically declares for the need of restricting state prices of basic food products and necessities. The gap in price increases and the increase of incomes should not exceed 25 per cent. The federation insists on fixing the minimum wage at the level of 1.5-2 thousand roubles and, accordingly, pensions, scholarships, benefits. In other words, we are a constructive opposition to the government".

UN Mission Opens; Kravchenko Speaks at Ceremony

LD0909085492 Moscow Programma Radio Odin Network in Russian 1430 GMT 8 Sep 92

[Text] A UN branch was solemnly opened in the capital of Belarus today. It is the first UN mission in this region since the setting up of the Commonwealth of Independent States. Speaking at the opening ceremony, Belarus Foreign Minister Petr Kravchenko said that he is certain that, given time, the UN Minsk branch will become a center for all-around regional cooperation.

Kebich Notes Lack of Office Space for Embassies

LD0809205692 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0500 GMT 8 Sep 92

[Telephone report by Leonid Sviridov in Minsk]

[Text] Vyacheslav Kebich, chairman of the Belarusian Council of Ministers, has remarked at a conference that there is a clear shortage of office space and residential accommodation for foreign diplomats. Meanwhile, premises belonging to various government departments and enterprises, i.e. to the state, are often used by private individuals and organizations for commercial purposes. Vyacheslav Kebich ordered extensive checks into how office space is being used and the drafting of an appropriate resolution by the Belarusian cabinet. Urgent renovations for foreign embassies and representative offices are being planned.

Well-informed sources in the Belarusian Foreign Ministry told Radio Rossii that three buildings which once belonged to the Defense Ministry are to be turned over to become the Russian Embassy in Minsk. According to some reports, Russian Ambassador Igor Saprykin is to hand his credentials to the head of state, Stanislav Shushkevich, before Shushkevich departs for Bishkek to attend the next meeting of the CIS heads of state.

Moldova

Prime Minister Chairs Government Meeting

Not Considering New Political Union

OW0809152492 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1338 GMT 08 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] At yesterday's meeting of the Moldovan government, Prime Minister Andrey Sangheli said that, while

Moldova was willing to discuss any suggestions on economic cooperation, it will not even consider any proposals on the forming of a new political union. Sangheli was answering cabinet members' questions about his attitude to Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev's initiatives for the forthcoming CIS summit in Bishkek.

Discusses Privatization

OW0809125092 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1025 GMT 8 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] On Monday [7 September], the Moldovan Government discussed ways of privatizing state enterprises, shops and service centers.

The programme proposed by the State Department for Privatization envisages the sale of about 70 per cent of state shops and service centers to private owners. The state has reserved for itself the right to see that the privatized sector provides clients and customers with a definite minimum of services and goods.

Adopts Social Protection Measures

AU0609160492 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1452 GMT 6 Sep 92

[Text] Chisinau, ROMPRES, 6/9/1992—To provide for social protection, better material situation of families, improved working conditions for women, mother and child protection, the government of the Republic of Moldova endorsed a programme of measures, reports MOLDOVA PRES.

The programme includes such sections as better material and living conditions of families, women's higher professional standards, rational use of women's work force, mother and child health protection.

The measures are phased out till 1996.

Under government's decision, the ministries, state departments and local self-administration bodies in the Republic of Moldova shall see to it that the measures are carried into effect as planned.

Snegur Hopes IMF Will Aid Drought-Stricken Areas

LD0509202992 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1600 GMT 5 Sep 92

[Text] Moldovan President Mircea Snegur has expressed hope that the IMF will help the republic to eliminate the aftermath of the drought which has hit its agriculture. According to RIA, he revealed this at a meeting in Chisinau with the permanent representative of the IMF in Moldova.

President Snegur underlined that IMF humanitarian aid would be highly appreciated in his republic, after the combat actions unleashed by the separatists.

Sangheli, IMF Delegation Discuss Credits

AU0909094792 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0710 GMT 9 Sep 92

[Text] Chisinau, ROMPRES, 9/9/1992—Moldovan Prime Minister Andrey Sangheli received the permanent representative of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to the Republic of Moldova, Mr. Blackwell, together with a team of IMF experts, said MOLDOVA PRES quoting governmental sources.

During the meeting a programme of cooperation between the Republic of Moldova and the IMF has been worked out and talks were held on the IMF possible granting of a credit support to the national economy which has been severely affected during the drought.

Issues and prospects of the introduction of a national coin in Moldova were approached.

Dniester Council Names Smirnov Head of State

OW0809211992 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1911 GMT 8 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] A resolution on a new governmental structure was passed at a session of the Supreme Council of the Dniester Moldovan Republic on September 8th. The functions of the head of state were transferred to President Igor Smirnov of the Dniester Moldovan Republic. All the work previously carried out by the governmental administrative arms will now be carried out by 13 ministries. 4 state committees have also been approved, as have 3 directorates, a state inspectorate, a state standardisation centre for metrology and certification, and a state insurance company.

Deputy Minister, CSCE Delegates Discuss Dniester

AU0909120192 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1049 GMT 9 Sep 92

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 9/9/1992—Ion Botnaru, first deputy minister of foreign affairs of the Republic of Moldova, had a meeting with the members of the special CSCE mission headed by Adam Daniel Rotfeld, personal envoy of the CSCE president. The mission is of a strictly political nature and is intended for a detailed fact-finding inspection of the republic's actual situation.

Ion Botnaru informed the delegation about the developments in the political life of Moldova, particularly about the efforts being made to settle the crisis in the eastern districts of the republic. He expressed the interest of his country in enhancing the active role the CSCE might play for the instatement in the area of a lasting peace.

Mr. Rotfeld estimated that the CSCE could open new prospects for the four-party mechanism and voiced the readiness of the European forum to involve itself without delay and efficiently in the actions taken for the

settlement of the conflict, MOLDOVA PRES informs, quoting sources of the Moldovan Foreign Ministry.

Joint Control Commission Examines Security Zone

AU0609190392 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1555 GMT 6 Sep 92

[Text] Chisinau, ROMPRES, 6/9/1992—During its ordinary session at Chisinau, the Joint Control Commission has found it opportune to raise the joint military contingent posts located along the Dniester, which fulfilled their mission north of the Rezina-Ribnita line.

While examining the military commands' activity in the security area, the Commission notified the 14th Army command it should strictly observe the neutrality principle and organize the dislodged units and subunits' activity in compliance with garrison and guard service rules.

A meeting of the Joint Control Commission and the Quadripartite Commission set up under the decision of the foreign ministers of Moldova, Romania, the Russian Federation and Ukraine approved of the way in which the military observers carry on their activity in the security area and in which information is exchanged so as to take efficient measures for the final stabilization of the situation.

Archbishop of Chisinau Meets Romanian Charge

AU0509183192 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1715 GMT 5 Sep 92

[Text] Chisinau, ROMPRES, 5/9/1992—Vladimir, archbishop of Chisinau and Moldova, met in the Moldovan capital of Chisinau, Ion Bistreanu, acting charge d'affaires of Romania to Moldova, announces a ROMPRES correspondent.

It was mentioned that it was necessary that actions of brotherly cooperation continue in all the fields of the ecumenical and social life, considering that the church has the role to preach high moral values for the kinship and faith unity of the whole Romanian people.

Economy Suffers From Ukrainian Strikes

LD0809205792 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1100 GMT 8 Sep 92

[Text] According to preliminary figures, the recent strike by Ukrainian railwaymen cost the Moldovan economy 7 million rubles. An ITAR-TASS correspondent was told in the Moldovan railway administration that owing to the action by Ukrainian transport workers, which lasted about 24 hours, passenger transport had to be suspended completely, and 80 percent of freight trains had to be halted. The railwaymen were joined by miners, air traffic controllers, and senior staff of a number of other Ukrainian air services workers in the action, which called for higher wages and a tariff agreement to be concluded.

Import of Tyumen Oil, Vladivostok Fish Planned

OW0909114492 Moscow INTERFAX in English 0952 GMT 9 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] On Tuesday night [8 September] a Moldovan delegation led by Prime Minister Andrey Sangeli flew out to Tyumen to conclude direct agreements with the Tyumen oil producers on supplying Moldova with oil, and to discuss various aspects of Moldovan citizens' work in this region. The Moldovan delegation will subsequently fly to Vladivostok for talks on supplying Moldova with sea products.

The government of Moldova has already drafted an agreement with the Russsian Federation on the terms of Moldovan citizens' temporary employment in Russia. This document is expected to be confirmed by the heads of the two states. Such an agreement will help Moldova solve the problems of employment and supply industry with fuel and raw materials.

Kazakhstan

Grain Crop Among Best; Harvest Presents Problem

PM0409114792 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1700 GMT 1 Sep 92

[Report by D. Baimbetov and B. Shakhanov; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] [Baimbetov] This year is one of the best harvest years in the history of Kazakhstan. The ears are this full and abundant almost everywhere.

However, will farmers be able to gather all the grain? After all, in many fields the grain is still green. Just like here, for example, on the Yaroslavskiy Sovkhoz in Aktyubinsk Oblast. To make matters worse, Kazakhstan will have to rely solely on its own resources. Assistance from Russia, Belarus, and Uzbekistan, which have offered to help out with fuel and machinery, will by no means be altruistic. Therefore all the republic's farms have tried to calculate the cost of all the options of harvest work.

I would like to mention that for the first time this year, profits from this year's crops will go to those who grew them, that is, the farmers themselves. Furthermore, after fulfilling the state order, farmers will be able to sell grain for hard currency. These are the intentions; what will happen in reality is as yet difficult to tell. Purchase prices for grain in Kazakhstan are 1.5-2 times lower than in Russia itself.

Successful Grain Harvest Continues in North

LD0709224492 Alma-Ata Kazakh Radio Network in Russian 0100 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Text] In North Kazakhstan oblast, 10 percent of the grain crop has been threshed. Local equipment is being used to the maximum in the harvest. The number of vehicles from other areas used for the harvest in the Republic this year has been cut two- to three-fold in comparison with previous years, despite the high yield of the crops. For example, grain crops are yielding more than 16 quintals per hectare on the average. Widely used economical and energy-saving means of transporting the grain and the new system of payment are providing a great stimulus to the workers.

President Tours Northern Farming Areas

OW0709211492 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1818 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] President Nursultan Nazarbeyev, of Kazakhstan, has begun a tour of farming areas in the north of the republic. He will visit the Kustanai and Akmolin regions. The President's office has said that Nazarbeyev will look into progress in harvesting, visit farms and meet with farm workers and businessmen.

The Kazakh Ministry of Agriculture says that 5 million 861 thousand tonnes of grain has been thrashed. One million 600 thousand tonnes (a mere 15% of the ordered amount) has been sold to the state

Stresses Importance of Good Harvest

OW0809225292 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1717 GMT 8 Sep 92

[From "Presidential Bulletin"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] President Nursultan Nazarbayev is conducting an inspection trip along the republic's northern territories - in Akmolinsk and Kustanai regions. The presidential spokesman informed Interfax that President Nazarbayev is visiting in these areas in order to "familiarize himself with the progress of harvesting works, see some of the farms, meet with farmers and entrepreneurs".

IF [INTERFAX] Note: According to the Kazakh ministry of agriculture, on September 7, the republic's farms have cropped 5,861 thousand tonnes of grain and sold to the state 1,600 thousand tonnes of grain, i.e., 15 percent of the target aggregate.

Some of the observers reason that the president's trip to the northern regions was necessitated by the latter considerations. The experts are reminding in this regard that in counting on an abundant crop, the government was slating some of it for export.

At a meeting in Alma-Ata in mid-July, Premier Sergey Tereshchenko, for example, suggested that the republic would be able to harvest over 31 mn tonnes of grain this year. In his opinion, in the next 10-15 years, Russia and Central Asian republics of the CIS would have to continue purchasing 20-30 mn tonnes of grain from the countries other than the Commonwealth. In this situation, Kazakhstan would be able to export to them up to 10 mn tonnes of grain, selling it at world grain prices. In order to fulfill the state order the government envisages to purchase of some of the grain (about 3 mn tonnes) for hard currency.

IF Note: In an interview for Interfax earlier, the head of the president's agricultural division, Vasiliy Golub, said that he cannot estimate the amount of the crop this year, reminding that the republic harvested its "peak" crop in 1979 when it amounted to 34,500 thousand tonnes of grain. Mr Golub claimed that the republic has every opportunity to closely approach this target amount this year.

Grain Harvest Updated

LD0809020492 Alma-Ata KAZTAG in English 2030 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Text] The grain growing regions of Kazakhstan have already sold 1.221 million tonnes of grain to the state. About 20,000 tonnes of grain in excess of the state order have been purchased by the government (?on currency). Throughout Kazakhstan cooperators have gathered in 20 percent of the (?home-sown) harvest in the republic.

Tereshchenko Arrives in Israel for Talks

LD0809172292 Alma-Ata Kazakh Radio Network in Russian 0800 GMT 8 Sep 92

[Text] A formal welcoming ceremony was held in Jerusalem yesterday for Kazakhstan Prime Minister Sergey Tereshchenko, who arrived in Israel on an official visit. The head of the government of Kazakhstan was welcomed by Hayim Herzog, president of the State of Israel, and Shevah Weiss, Speaker of the Knesset. A guard of honour was formed and the state flags of Israel and Kazakhstan were raised in front of the Knesset building. An army band played the national anthems of the two countries.

Talks between Sergey Tereshchenko and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin were held the same day. The sides stressed that broad prospects have opened up for the development of mutually beneficial bilateral relations. It was noted that the first visit to Israel by the head of the government of Kazakhstan is making an important contribution to intensifying cooperation, and reflects the interests of the peoples of both countries. The visit continues.

Working Meeting Held

LD0709165392 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0835 GMT 7 Sep 92

[by ITAR-TASS correspondent Aleksandr Zhudro]

[Text] Tel Aviv, 7 September—Kazakhstan Prime Minister Sergey Tereshchenko has begun an official visit to the State of Israel. Late yesterday evening he had a working meeting with Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres. The sides discussed prospects for the expansion of bilateral trade and economic and technical cooperation. It was noted that mutually advantageous relations have already produced good results in agriculture and telecommunications. Today the head of the Kazakh Government will hold talks with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin.

Economic Protocol Signed

LD0809194692 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0820 GMT 8 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Aleksandr Zhurdo]

[Text] Tel Aviv September 8 TASS - Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin and his visiting opposite number from Kazakhstan Sergey Tereshchenko on Monday [7 September] signed a protocol to establish a joint economic commission.

Sources close to the Kazakhstan government delegation told ITAR-TASS that Tereshchenko handed over to the Israeli prime minister a package of 120 concrete projects proposed for accomplishment by the two countries on a mutually-beneficial basis.

The Israeli side has shown special interest in these proposals as Israeli companies have already amassed positive experience of activity on Kazakhstan territory. One project of interest to Israel is Kazakhstan technology for water desalination.

On the same day, an agreement on direct air traffic between Israel and Kazakhstan was signed.

Tereshchenko's interview with local radio evoked serious response. The mass media had recently published a report alleging that Kazakhstan sold three nuclear bombs to Iran. Tereshchenko categorically denied the allegation.

Nazarbayev Profiled; Possible Ambitions Noted

LD0709160792 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1800 GMT 6 Sep 92

[From the "Itogi" newscast]

[Text] Mediation in the Azerbaijan-Armenia conflict. What part of this is attributable to the politics of Kazakhstan and what part to Nazarbayev the politician? Kazakhstan is naturally predestined to play a unique role as a natural bridge between Europe and Asia, a role that today's Russia has evidently failed to include among its priorities. Its geopolitical situation and the almost equal balance of its European and Asian population make Kazakhstan a key player not only within the region but beyond.

It is a tradition in all the CIS states to embody the policies of the state in a single person. Nazarbayev could not be more suitable. Let us recall that Gorbachev once said that he thought of him as a possible vice president. If the Union treaty had been signed, Nazarbayev would most probably have become prime minister. An accord to this effect was reached at the limited meeting in Novo-Ogarevo.

What about Nazarbayev's role in the formation of the CIS? Or his foreign visits, in which he has shown evidence of having considerable international weight? And the other actions?

Incidentally, some of these hardly evoke great delight in Kazakhstan's neighbors. In Russia, for example, when the leaders of Tatarstan and Bashkortostan—testing the waters with the idea of a greater Turkestan—went first to Tashkent, semi-officially and none too successfully, they

then unexpectedly signed several documents with Nazarbayev. This was evidently also a warning to Russia, which had begun to raise the issue of age-old territories particularly forcefully.

Now there is another powerful surge of activity by the Kazakh president: an initiative toward an Armenian-Azerbaijani settlement; an initiative on a new union, put forward at the meeting with CIS newspaper editors in chief; a meeting scheduled for this fall in Alma-Ata between the heads of the Asian republics of the former Soviet Union and the leaders of Turkey, Iran, and Pakistan, with the goal of creating a new security system in Asia. It has not been ruled out that Nazarbayev will appear as a new leader within the CIS at the meeting in Bishkek on 25 September, replacing Yeltsin and Kravchuk, who have worn themselves out in their struggle against each other. His latest talks with Askar Akayev, the summit host, are a sure sign that Nazarbayev is preparing for Bishkek in earnest.

Future of Nuclear Science Facilities' Eyed

PM0409131792 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 2 Sep 92 p 2

[Ye. Dotsuk report: "What Is Causing the Former Test Site To Shake? Economic and Political Contradictions in the CIS Putting Nuclear Industry's Future in Doubt"]

[Text] Alma-Ata—The Baykonur complexes which are almost like something out of science fiction, the Semipalatinsk nuclear test site which is of priceless value to science, and several other top secret nuclear facilities, all of which were once known to only a very narrow circle of people involved in research of almost global significance, today find themselves on the nuclear scrap heap (as local poets now call sovereign Kazakhstan).

The Mangyshlak Peninsula has been keeping one such secret for 20 years now. Until now it had been believed that its oil had breathed life into the deserted town of Shevchenko. Whereas, in fact, the city was built to mine uranium.

Oil was found here only much later. In those days, 20 years ago, the world's first BN-350 fast-neutron nuclear reactor was launched. Had it not been for the absolute secrecy of science, this would have been a sensation for all mankind!

It was the first installation on the planet using a sodium coolant. One kg of uranium was deposited in the reactor, and it yielded not only energy but also over 1 kg of another fuel—plutonium. Western scientists called the BN-350 the installation of the future.

The idea of combining production of electricity and drinking water in the desert with the aid of the fast-neutron reactor, which was implemented here, also proved a stroke of genius. The artificial water produced in the reactor proved to be of surprising quality, incomparably better even than the waters of rivers, lakes, and underground sources which contain heavy metals and oxides.... When filtered through the nuclear distiller, the water of the Caspian Sea becomes 10,000 times purer, being transformed into ecologically exemplary drinking water.

In the period of common Soviet history this water had brilliant prospects—it was planned to produce a blood substitute of vital importance to medicine which was to have been called "aqua vita"—in translation from Latin, "water of life."

Moreover, these prospects still remain today; only their implementation has become problematic. Formerly the nuclear reactor and its artificial water belonged to the whole empire—to the Ministry of Medium Machine Building—but now, with its transfer to the ownership of Kazakhstan, there are insufficient funds for further research. True, for the time being there are still the people—specialists from the presovereignty era, but of course, they will not be there forever either.

Meanwhile, several Western and Eastern countries, taking advantage of our successes, are beginning to move forward. Although we built the distiller in Yemen, a nuclear installation similar to our own is operating in Mexico, and Israel intends to install its own. Incidentally, the so-called flash evaporation method, which Japan and several Near East countries have now borrowed, was also invented here in Shevchenko. After all, scientists have long been predicting a severe shortage of drinking water on Earth. "Water will be dearer than bread." People are preparing.

Moreover, according to the assessments of some experts, there is only enough oil and gas left in the depths of the planet for about 15 years (others claim for 25-30 years), and coal and gas reserves are running out. Sooner or later nuclear electric power could be the only source of heat and light. However, while having excellent initial possibilities today, we risk lagging indefinitely behind those who came after us.

Incidentally, there was an attempt in the United States to trigger an explosion in a reactor similar to the one in Shevchenko by way of an experiment. The Americans modeled a systems failure in it along the lines of the Chernobyl accident. The pumps were fully de-energized, the circulation of the coolant having been shut down. In other words, all mechanisms were jammed, as though after an earthquake. The experiment with the explosion was unsuccessful. The BN-350 and its analogues are built on feedback principles—any deviation in the operation leads to the reactor itself extinguishing a chain reaction!

A reactor of the next generation has been created in Shevchenko now; it is called "Aktau-1". It has as of today the highest safety specifications. This installation is considered to be the reactor of the 21st century.

If you add to these technologies Kazakhstan's huge reserves of uranium and advanced industrial infrastructure for prospecting and mining it, you could not dream

of a better base. Now we have almost achieved the main objective in the development of nuclear science—people's safety.

Another magnificient inheritance of the former Union is the "Luch" Science and Production Association, situated at the Semipalatinsk test site. During tests, in addition to nuclear weapons research, it was studying the problems of the safety of nuclear power, but more importantly, it was engaged in the creation of a nuclear jet engine.

There are three reactors here. One of them was once jokingly called DOU-3. It was Kurchatov's brain child. After he had suffered two heart attacks, he hurried to finish the installation before the third hit. They say that this reactor also has no counterpart in the world. The reactor also cancels the growth of a nuclear reaction inside itself.

The other two research reactors are called IVG. One of them is a mysterious nuclear reactor invented back in the seventies. However, at that time, it was largely not needed, and the installation was used only as a reactor. Fuel-assemblies can be created in these installations and tested at temperatures of over 3,000 degrees Kelvin in hydrogen. This is why it is at the "Luch" Science and Production Association that the main research will soon be conducted into the purpose-built NJE reactor—the nuclear jet engine necessary for the voyage from Earth to Mars. The Americans will most probably also join in this work by Soviet scientists, because, according to the assessments of the well-known U.S. firms "Aerojet" and "Babcock and Wilcox," "the purpose-built installations of the 'Luch' Science and Production Association possess potential which at present is unrivaled in the world."

I confess that, while in Semipalatinsk, I experienced an almost forgotten feeling of pride in the country.

I have spoken about just two of the secrets of the Soviet Union, which raised us to the level of a superpower in the past. However, at other times also, you will agree, it felt good to know that we were citizens of that power.

Today, however, having shared out the achievements, everyone finds himself in absurd situations. The cart remains in Kazakhstan, but the horse and cab driver have disappeared to Russia. Gradually everything has begun to fall into neglect, because test sites, cosmodromes, and science in general require big money and top scientists, who are today trained only in Russia—a huge division of labor, when all is said and done.

The Baykonur cosmodrome has swiftly begun to turn into an open-air space museum. In order to revive this facility, which is of global significance, Russia and Kazakhstan signed an agreement on the joint use of Baynokur at presidential level last spring. Perhaps we have now gone our separate ways enough to begin to unify? Maybe, other threads will follow Baynokur and begin to bind together the former republics?

In any case, throughout the period since the USSR's disintegration, President Nazarbayev has been instilling into the consciousness of the people of Kazakhstan the idea that, whatever the turn of events in the development of the CIS, Russia and Kazakhstan must stay together. Although this is not very pleasing to the intransigent national opposition, which sees such statements as an attack on the country's sovereignty.

After all, there is such a delicate factor between these countries as their common nuclear future. Even if it will no longer now be a question of nuclear weapons, but of nuclear science. A science that is mortally dangerous in a situation of instability and enmity, self-extinguishing reactors or no. However, at the same time, it is also extremely important for people living in peace.

Spreading on Radioactivite Precipitation Confirmed

OW0909114692 Moscow INTERFAX in English 0950 GMT 9 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The aerial photos taken after nuclear tests in Semipalatinsk revealed the spreading of radioactive precipitation to the southern regions of Kuzbass, Ivan Chastnikov, a Corresponding Member of Kazakhstan's Academy of Sciences and chairman of the Council for Radiation Ecology of the Nevada-Semipalatinsk movement, told Chairman of the Kemerovo regional Council Aman Tuleyev.

In Chastinkov's estimate, the aggregate radiation levels in this region amount to 7 rem (with the annual per capita norm equalling 0.5 rem). Experts believe that Tuleyev should make the federal authorities compensate the population of Kuzbass for the inflicted damage, as documented in the resolution of the USSR's Cabinet of Ministers dated April 8, 1991.

U.S. Project To Aid Coal Industry Viewed

PM0809103392 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 4 Sep 92 First Edition p 1

[Sergey Skorokhodov report under the "Aid" rubric: "The Americans Believed Us"]

[Text] Alma-Ata—"Partners in Economic Reform"—this is the name of the private U.S. program in which Kazakhstan became involved at the beginning of this year. A group of Americans ready to begin carrying into effect "the coal industry project" has already visited Alma-Ata.

The project provides for multilateral aid to the CIS' main coal-mining regions—the Donbass, the Kuzbass, Vorkuta, and Karaganda. Businessmen intend to carry out an expert evaluation of the state of affairs in the coal mining industry and help to improve miners' working conditions and production efficiency.

What depends on us? According to William Marr, the program's executive director, all that we have to do is to introduce at least elementary order into production. However, in the United States they invest this concept with a much broader meaning than we think. There private ownership sets the tone for everything. In Kazakhstan, however, the coal mining sector of the economy belongs entirely to the state and will hardly be privatized. So the state order and state prices will continue to determine relations between workers and the employer—the state. Independent trade unions could become a third force, capable of bringing these relations if not into harmony, then at least into some kind of stability, ruling out the threat of perpetual strikes. Right now the Americans are "establishing a presence" in the Kazakhstan Independent Trade Union Center and the Karaganda Basin Independent Trade Union of Mine Workers.

Russian Refusal of Products Causes Plant Problems

PM0809095392 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1400 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Report by D. Baimbetov, B. Shakhanov, and Ch. Lazarevskiy; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Here's a report from the Chelesay Phosphate Association.

[Baimbetov] The enterprise was originally built to cater specially for the needs of agriculture in Siberia and the Far East within the framework of Unionwide production sharing. However, now the Russians are refusing point-blank to accept its products. Moreover, they haven't paid the collective a penny for the output—around 7 million rubles' worth—that they've already received this year. More than 11,000 tonnes of ground phosphate rock alone has built up at the association's warehouses. The work force has been cut from 2,500 to 1,500. The only solution is to convert the production facilities to the enrichment of copper and gold bearing ores. However, this could take months, if not years. Although, after Nursultan Nazarbayev's recent meeting with the association's workers, there is some hope that the process may be speeded up. Additional funds and foreign-currency appropriations will be allocated, and a special Kazakh Cabinet of Ministers resolution has been adopted on Chelesay.

President Nazarbayev To Visit Japan in Nov

OW0709135992 Tokyo KYODO in English 1338 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Text] Alma-Ata, Sept. 7 KYODO—Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev has said he will visit Japan at the end of November or early December.

Nazarbayev said in a meeting Sunday [6 September] with a group of Japanese editorial writers and experts that as his country has enormous nonferrous metal and oil resources and is rich in agricultural products.

But, he acknowledged that his country lacks storage facilities and processing know-how. He added he would like to persuade Japanese business representatives of the mutual advantages of combining Japan's high technology and Kazakhstan's resources.

"Our strategical aim is tightening ties with Russia," he stressed, but said his country would cooperate with all Asian countries, including China, South Korea and Japan to build an Asian security structure modeled on the Conference on Security and Cooperation in europe (CSCE).

Report Notes Trends Among Country's Youth

OW0709180392 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1314 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] An anti-nuclear movement "Nevada-Semipalatinsk" still enjoys the greatest popularity among the Kazakh youth. But in comparison with 1989-90 the number of its supporters has subsequently decreased, the chief of the department for scientific analysis and prognosis of the State Committee on Youth Gairat Semikov declared in his interview with "IF" [INTERFAX].

According to the data of a questionnaire conducted by his department, he pointed out that for the last time the authority of the societies "Kazak tili" ("The Kazakh language"), Union of the Afghan war veterans, and national-cultural centers has tremendously grown.

According to Semikov's prognosis, a flow of youth in the age between 20-24 years of predominantly Kazakh nationality is expected to the republican party "Azat" ("Freedom"). Young people in the age of 18-26, students, mainly marginal groups, religious fanatics living in the capital and big cities will join the party of national independence "Alash" (an old-Turkic title of the Kazakhs). This party can find support of 3-5% of the population.

Semikov also said that the party "Zheltoksan" "will find support among students and intelligentsia of first generation", among young people and employees of the Kazakh nationality living in towns for 5 to 10 years.

People with special secondary and higher education, and from countryside will support the People's congress of Kazakhstan. Semikov believes that "this party is more close to the ideas being put forward by the President of the republic".

The socialist party of Kazakhstan will be popular among the countryside youth and those who "are entering active life" that is among those who are 18-24 years old.

Kyrgyzstan

Akayev Leaves For Meeting With Nazarbayev

LD0409161892 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0907 GMT 4 Sep 92

[By KYRGYZTAG correspondent Albert Bogdanov]

[Text] Bishkek September 4 TASS—President of Kyrgyzstan Askar Akayev left for Alma-Ata on Friday [4 September] where he will meet his Kazakh counterpart to discuss five proposals advanced by Nursultan Nazarbayev on the eve of a CIS summit in Bishkek.

Nazarbayev proposed to create a CIS coordinating centre, a banking and defence union, an administration court and an assembly of people's deputies.

Most agreements between CIS states are not working because Commonwealth leaders do not trust each other, Nazarbayev told reporters on Thursday.

Akayev will also attend the "Karkara-92" international exhibition in Alma-Ata and will participate in the work of a business-club there.

German Official Asks About Ethnic Germans

OW0809212292 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1910 GMT 8 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The German Federal Government's Plenipotentiary for ethnic Germans located abroad, Herr Horst Waffenschmidt, has expressed his concern over the continued exodus of Germans from Kyrgyzstan during a visit to Bishkek. IF [INTERFAX] received this information from Kyrgyz Presidential Advisor Leonid Levitin.

Levitin said that the German visitor enquired about the possibility of forming a national territorial region for Germans living in Kyrgyzstan at a meeting with Askar Akayev. However, the president pointed out the difficulties in resolving this question due to the fact that many other peoples also live in the republic.

In addition, Levitin reminded all concerned that two national cultural regions had in fact been created by presidential decree in regions where the German population was concentrated most.

Waffenschmidt stated that Germany would like to preserve the German diaspora. The German visitor pointed out that it could become a "long bridge for links with Central Asia".

(More details about the interview with Levitin will be published in the September 9th issue of "Presidential Bulletin").

Akayev Gives Firms 18 Months To Settle Debts

OW0309225392 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1740 GMT 3 Sep 92

[Report by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin; edited by Boris Grishchenko; from "Presidential Bulletin"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Under a decree issued by President Askar Akayev Kyrgyzstan's National Bank and Economics and Finance Ministries will, together with commercial banks, make it possible for state enterprises and organizations to settle their mutual debts. This work will have to be concluded before December 31, 1993. It will be coordinated by the National Debts Department set up in accordance with the decree.

The president hopes that "all state enterprises and organizations will settle their mutual debts no later than in the 1st quarter of 1994". When the time fixed for this expires, the remaining debts will be transferred to the category of national debts. To cover them the state will issue promissory notes to be sold in the local securities market. The leaders of enterprises and organizations will have the right to determine the order of payments before the 1st quarter of 1994 on their own.

Republican Party of Kyrgyzstan Founded

LD0509193292 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1600 GMT 5 Sep 92

[Text] The founding conference of the Republican Party of Kyrgyzstan [Respublikanskaya Partiya Kyrgyzstana] has been held in Bishkek. The participants in the conference have made it their aim to consolidate the citizens of the republic in finding a way out of the economic crisis.

At the same time, the party's rules say that the rights of a nation in extreme circumstances should be placed above the rights of the individual. According to RIA, the members of the Republican Party also speak against dual citizenship in Kyrgyzstan and discrimination against former CPSU members.

Tajikistan

Nabiyev Reportedly Leaves for Leninabad Oblast

LD0809210492 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1900 GMT 8 Sep 92

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] Today, Dushanbe categorically denied rumors relating to Rakhman Nabiyev's death and circulated information that he has left for Khubzhand in Leninabad Oblast.

Nabiyev Permitted To Leave for Khadjad

WA0809191092 Paris AFP in English 1840 GMT 8 Sep 92

[Text] Dushanbe, Sept 8 (AFP)—Rakhman Nabiyev, the ousted communist president of Tajikistan, was allowed to leave the capital for his home town in the north of the country Tuesday [8 September] as his successors pledged to create a democratic secular state.

Local television said Nabiyev, who was forced to resign Monday after a week of violent protests in the capital, left Dushanbe Tuesday "at his demand" for Kajad, formerly Leninabad, his home town and stronghold in the north.

Nabiyev was detained by pro-democracy and Islamic opposition forces Monday at Dushanbe airport when he tried to flee the capital for Kajad.

He agreed to formally resign as president and to renounce all political activity in exchange for pledges from the new authorities to guarantee his safety.

The presidium of parliament earlier Tuesday took control of the government pending democratic elections tentatively scheduled for December.

Akbarsho Iskandarov, head of the presidium, pledged in a televised address Tuesday to create a "democratic and secular state which will have good relations with its neighbors."

"Our first concern is to end the civil war and save Tajikistan from famine," Iskandarov said, referring to months of fighting between communist supporters of Nabiyev and opposition forces which has left hundreds dead and thousands homeless, notably in the south of the country. [passage omitted]

Officials Ask UN To Probe Nabiyev Resignation

LD0809195292 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network in Tajik 1700 GMT 8 Sep 92

[Text] An oblast conference was held today in Khojand [Leninabad oblast] attended by the chairmen of the town and rayon executive committees and representatives of all political parties and popular movements of the oblast. According to a report by our reporter in Khojand, the conference discussed the social, economic, and political situation in the oblast and in the republic.

Participants of the conference expressed their views on the resignation of President Rakhman Nabiyev. In their view, putting pressure on the president while he was writing his resignation letter was not in conformity with the Constitution. The conference decided to request that the UN Organization send observers to verify the validity of the resignation of the president.

However, the conference regarded other actions and decisions by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet and the Cabinet of Ministers as conforming with the Constitution of Tajikistan. The conference also examined issues in connection with the Independence Day celebrations in the oblast and the events of the World Tajik Congress. It was stressed that the people of Leninabad should energetically take part in these historic events. During these days they should manifest that they are searching for ways for cooperation and unity with the inhabitants of other oblasts aimed at the stabilization of the situation and the restoration of peace and tranquillity in the land of Tajiks.

The Leninabad Oblast Executive Committee decided to broadcast radio and television programs on the territory of the oblast during the Independence Day anniversary and the World Tajik Congress. The congress also discussed other issues.

In connection with this report, we would like to stress the point that two experienced lawyers of the republic, Fayzollo Abdulloyev, the justice minister, and Asurboy Imomov, the chairman of the Republican Constitutional Committee, were present at the signing of Rakhman Nabiyev's resignation application. In a television interview, they stated that no pressure had been applied and there were no violations of the Constitution. Rakhman Nabiyev also stressed this point in his televized address.

'Formal Confirmation' of Resignation in Doubt

OW0809174392 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1723 GMT 8 Sep 92

[From "Presidential Bulletin"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The formal confirmation of Rakhman Nabiyev's resignation from his position as president will not take place any time soon. This is the conclusion toward which observers in Dushanbe are leaning, commenting on the regular transfer of the terms of the republic's Supreme Soviet session, a special session of which was postponed until Tuesday [8 September] due to a lack of a quorum on Monday. For the same reason the beginning of work by the session, already postponed "indefinitely", was postponed again today.

INTERFAX INFORMATION: The presidium of Parliament accepted President Nabiyev's private announcement of resignation, guaranteeing the president an acceptable pension and a state dacha. However, the Supreme Soviet presidium's decision is not enough to strip the head of state of his powers. Consent is needed from a simple majority of Parliament's members, which would be 111 deputies. There is general conviction that it is very unlikely that the necessary number of deputies will meet in Dushanbe, since the Leninabsk region, loyal to Nabiyev, most likely will first stick to obstructionist lines in sending their representatives to the session.

Nonetheless, a contingency of the public opinion in Dushanbe perceives Nabiyev's resignation and the transfer of his powers to head of Parliament Akbarsho

Iskandarov as a completed? [as received] fact and is not inclined to dramatize the prospects of the indefinite suspension of work of the legislative bodies.

In addition, the local press is rather clearly circulating rumors about the "involuntary" departure of Nabiyev, who "yielded" to pressure from those forcibly holding him yesterday in the capitol's airport, calling themselves the "Youth of Dushanbe".

INTERFAX INFORMATION: In his resignation announcement Nabiyev writes that he takes this step "taking into consideration the difficult situation in the republic, in the aims of stabilization and the halting of the fratricidal war." As is known, the President earlier planned to fly to the Leninabsk region with members of the Supreme Soviet presidium and representatives of the republic's Supreme Soviet for negotiations with deputies boycotting the session of the Supreme Soviet.

Ousted President's Supporters Prepared To Fight

LD0709150192 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1400 GMT 7 Sep 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] A number of observers believe that as time goes on, the Tajik situation is becoming increasingly reminiscent of the situation in Afghanistan, where the communists were overthrown by the opposition guided in their convictions by religious and ethnic fervor. At the same time, there is no certainty that Nabiyev's resignation will lead to normalization of the situation since the removed leader has the support of many followers prepared, as is clear from numerous reports coming in from the south of Tajikistan, to fight for power with weapons in their hands.

Official: Majority Oppose Nabiyev's Resignation

OW0909024292 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1652 GMT 8 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Presidential State Advisor Rustam Mirzoyev said that 70% of the republic's population was against President Nabiyev's resignation. In an interview in Minsk, where he is attending a conference of foreign ministers from the CIS member states, Mirzoyev reminded us that Rakhman Nabiyev was elected from 9 candidates by 58% of the population.

Mirzoyev is of the opinion that Tajikistan is still well on the road to building a respectable state and the majority of the population would refuse to adopt Islam in society.

The state advisor was wary of foreign intervention in Tajikistan's internal affairs which had been structured without foreign assistance. Large batches of arms were being exchanged across the border from Afghanistan. People with a poor command of the Tajik language are constantly appearing in the midst of the warring contingents in the conflict regions—people who are complete strangers to the area.

Parliament, Government on Commitment to Democracy

LD0809161392 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1556 GMT 8 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Dushanbe September 8 TASS—The Tajik Supreme Soviet and the government today made a statement, stressing "the voluntary resignation of the Tajik president does not mean we will abandon the way of creating a democratic secular state".

The joint appeal to all countries says the republic will keep to the U.N. Charter, the Helsinki documents and the Paris Charter. The republic will also strive to ensure rights of all ethnic groups living in Tajikistan and will take all measures to restore peace and tranquility and consolidate friendship and fraternal relations among Tajik residents.

Tajikistan will solve all disputable international issues through negotiations and observe the inviolability of borders with the neighbouring states. The republic denounces any aggression on part of any side as regards the other.

Supreme Soviet, Cabinet Appeal for Peace

LD0809173292 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1633 GMT 8 Sep 92

[By KHOVAR NEWS AGENCY correspondent Valeriy Zhukov for TASS]

[Text] Dushanbe September 8 TASS--In connection with the resignation of President Rakhman Nabiyev, "the Supreme Soviet Presidium and the Cabinet of Ministers took all the responsibility on republican management on themselves," says a joint appeal of the power bodies to the Tajik people broadcasted over the local radio and TV today.

The document calls on all compatriots to put an end to the bloodshed in the republic. "If all of us do not go to the fields and gardens today, we will be the reason for economic dislocation," says the appeal.

The Tajik leadership turned to the republican population with an insistent request to "abstain for six months from all strikes, rallies, manifestations of nationalism and localistic tendencies, and show tolerance and restraint as regards each other".

Government Reassures World Community

LD0809162592 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1400 GMT 8 Sep 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] The Supreme Soviet and government of Tajikistan today issued a joint statement to all countries of the world in which they assure the world community of their adherence to the construction of a democratic, secular state, and also to the UN Charter, the Helsinki documents, and the Paris Charter.

Tajikistan also undertakes to observe the inviolability of the borders of neighboring countries and condemns any form of aggression.

Judging by the extremely sparse reports from the agencies, the situation in the republic is, as previously, extremely tense. Fighting continues in Kurgan-Tyube oblast. The center itself, however, is completely controlled by detachments of the opposition. Yesterday and today intensive talks have been under way in Kurgan-Tyube between the Russian garrison and leaders of the grouping which operates in the city.

According to ITAR-TASS, the number of violations of the Tajik-Afghan border in the region of Pyandzh has increased over the past 24 hours. Nineteen violators who sought to break through into Afghanistan have been detained here.

In the past 24 hours alone, border guards have seized about 20 firearms and about 15,000 rounds.

Kulyab Official's Murder Considered 'Provocation'

LD0609160392 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1445 GMT 6 Sep 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] The body of Sakhreddin Sangov, deputy chairman of the Kulyab Oblast soviet political committee, who was taken hostage on 31 August and then released, was found in a river near Dushanbe during the night of 4 September. The leaders of the opposition parties and officers from Tajikistan's national security committee believe that the murder may have been a provocation aimed at worsening relations between Kulyab groups and opposition parties, the NEGA agency reports.

Said Killed by Enemies

LD0709150992 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network in Tajik 1400 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Text] The Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Tajikistan and the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Tajikistan are very saddened by the tragic death of Sayfyddin Ghoyebovich [name indistinct], first deputy chairman of the executive committee of Kulyab Oblast. They express their sincere sympathy to the relatives and family of the deceased. He was killed by the enemies. The presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Tajikistan and the Cabinet of Ministers on behalf of all the martyrs, understanding the pains inflicted onto their families, calls upon the participants of [word indistinct] to halt this senseless fratricidal killings and to hold talks to establish peace and calm in our suffering land.

Talks Held on Kurgan-Tyube Situation

LD0709122492 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network in Tajik 1000 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Text] On 5 September, under the chairmanship of Dzhamshed Karimov, first deputy prime minister of the Republic of Tajikistan, a working meeting was held of the members of the presidium and Cabinet of Ministers. Deputy Prime Ministers Karimov, Sayed Murodov, and Khayrullayev, and government members Navdzhuvanov, Sharipov, Vazirov, Saliyev, Umarov, Khaliknazarov, and Abdullayev spoke at the meeting on the political and economic situation in the city of Dushanbe and the republic.

Karimov stressed that on 4 September at 2000, after the signing of the accord between the representatives of the youth of the capital, the [word indistinct] of the Kulyab and Kurgan-Tyube Oblasts, leaders of the Supreme Soviet, government, presidential palace, and the Cabinet of Ministers were freed.

Internal Affairs Minister Navdzhuvanov, speaking on the events in Kurgan-Tyube Oblast, stated that as a result of the fighting between the sides, by 5 September 15 internal affairs workers had been killed and 50 people injured. The only way out of the situation is reconciliation between the two sides, stated the minister.

At the meeting, the protection of banks, radio, television, and [word indistinct], and the transportation of [word indistinct] and food products to Gorno-Badakhshan. Instructions were given to Minister Navdzhuvanov, and Sharipov, chairman of the Committee for National Security, to go to Kurgan-Tyube Oblast immediately and find ways and means for implementing the state of emergency. The members of the presidium and the government reached a decision that, until the stabilization of the political situation, they will urgently assess every day the [word indistinct] and important issues of the day in the republic.

Kurgan-Tyube Situation Improves

OW0809143992 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1342 GMT 08 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] On Tuesday [8 September], the Tajik Cabinet discussed the political and economic situation in the Kurgan-Tyube region. According to IF [INTERFAX]

sources, Interior Minister Makhmadayaz Navdzhuvanov and Chairman of the National Security Committee Shakhob Sharipov said that the situation in that region had partially improved.

As was earlier reported, street fighting between supporters of the opposition and residents of Kulyab who support the ex-president continued in Kurgan-Tyube for several days.

These officials stated that Kurgan-Tyube was abandoned by a leader of the Kulyab armed formations Langariy Langariyev, which was a major victory of the opposition over the Kulyab representatives who besieged Kurgan-Tyube.

Meanwhile, representatives of the Lali Badakhshon Party, which belongs to the coalition of the forces opposing Nabiyev, told IF in their Dushambe headquarters that they welcomed the president's resignation. Dzhumiy Buidakov, one of this party's leaders, representing the interests of the population of Gorny Badakhshan, said that "if the ex-president's supporters do not take illegal actions, the situation in Tajikistan will get back to normal".

According to Lai Badakhshon's sources, on Monday night President Nabiyev flew out to Khodzhent, the administrative center of the Leninabad region.

Buidakov said that film-director Davlat Khudonazarov who ran for presidency on behalf of the opposition during the recent elections, and Asliddin Sokhibnazarov, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, are the most prospective candidates to the president's post.

Tension Reported as First Anniversary Celebrated

LD0909091892 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 0800 GMT 9 Sep 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Tajikistan is marking its first anniversary of independence today. It was proclaimed on 9 September 1991. Congratulating his fellow citizens on republican television on the important date, Akbarsho Iskandarov, who has taken on the duties of president of Tajikistan following President Rakhman Nabiyev's resignation, called on the Tajik people for reconciliation and unity.

This afternoon the ceremonial opening of a worldwide forum of Tajiks will take place at Ozodi, the capital's central square. Representatives of the Tajik diaspora from former Soviet republics and other countries have come here to take part. Among those invited are Tajiks from Iran, Saudi Arabia, Afghanistan, Pakistan, the United States, and a number of CIS countries.

The sociopolitical situation in the republic remains extremely tense. According to IMA-PRESS, the Tajik Supreme Soviet will meet on 12-13 September, but it is still unclear whether deputies from Leninabad and Kulyab Oblasts will attend because the parliamentarians fear for their safety. According to the commander of the 201st regiment of a Russian motor-rifle division, about 16,000 refugees have gathered at the unit, including many Russians. Representatives of the Russian State Committee for Emergencies are traveling to Dushanbe today.

Cotton Harvest Begins Despite Political Situation

LD0809211392 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 0800 GMT 8 Sep 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Despite the complex political situation, the cotton harvest has begun in Tajikistan. The first tonnes of raw cotton arrived at the Shaartuz cotton gins today, ITAR-TASS reports. The capacity of the cotton gins is 1 million tonnes of raw cotton. As a result of the combat actions, however, a harvest of around 750,800 tonnes is expected.

Armed Group Stopped at Afghan Border

LD0609130292 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1145 GMT 6 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Galina Gridneva]

[Text] Dushanbe, 6 Sep—A group of 30 armed people attempted to fight its way from Afghanistan to Tajikistan last night. This information was given to an ITAR-TASS correspondent by the operational headquarters of the Central Asian Border District. In a brief clash 15 people were arrested and two were killed, one of whom turned out to be an Afghan national. Border guards captured 20 firearms, including assault rifles, plus 15,000 rounds of ammunition. The arrested refused to tell which political group they belonged to, insisting that they had the weapons for self-defense.

The same source reported that yesterday evening a group of 30 local Tajik residents managed to force their way to the bank of the Pyandzh River, which marks the border.

The number of illegal crossings of the Tajik-Afghan border in both directions has grown lately. The aim of these crossings is to deliver arms. Armed attacks on border troops and the besieging of military camps continue.

According to militia staff of the Central Asian Border District, border guards have seized over 40 assault rifles and 13 machine guns over the last month; many foreign-made plastic mines, grenades, and tens of thousands of rounds of ammunition units were also confiscated. More than 100 intruders have been detained. At the same time, the border guards point out that the weapons that have been confiscated are only a tiny fraction of what the transgressors manage to smuggle into the republic.

Further on Afghan Border Violations

LD0809214392 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1547 GMT 8 Sep 92

[By KHOVAR NEWS AGENCY for TASS]

[Text] Dushanbe September 8 TASS—Border guards of Central Asian border district detained on Tuesday [8 September] a group of Tajik citizens who were illegally crossing the border returning from Afghanistan loaded with 8 "Kalashnikov" sub-machine guns, three boxes of ammunition and a large sum of money.

The tresspassers voluntarily surrendered to the border guard patrol. However, later in the day, another instance of border violation was reported when five Tajik citizens, carrying arms, crossed the border in the area patrolled by Pyandzh border guards.

One of the tresspassers was detained, the rest escaped to the Lenin collective farm in the Kumsangiriyskiy border region.

Israel Prepared for Sharp Increase in Emigration

LD0409163892 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0700 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Text] To all appearances, a sharp increase in the numbers of Jews leaving Tajikistan is to be expected in the very near future, an INTERFAX correspondent has been told by a representative of the local department of the International Jewish Agency (Sokhnut) [Hebrew name for Jewish Agency], which is engaged in matters relating to the return of Jews from the Central Asian Republics of the former Soviet Union to their historic homeland.

According to (Sokhnut's) figures, there are now about 5,000 Jews living in the Tajik capital Dushanbe alone. The Agency believes that it is quite prepared for the mass departure of Jews from Tajikistan. In this year as a whole, 3,500 people have left the Central Asian Republics for Israel.

Turkmenistan

President Affirms 'No Opposition' to Government

OW0809225592 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1724 GMT 8 Sep 92

[From "Presidential Bulletin"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Today's government in Turkmenistan has no opposition", according to a statement made on Monday [7 September] by President Niyazov at talks with US Senator Allan Cranston. The Head of State drew his partner's attention to the fact that officials in the American Embassy were "looking for people with grievances against the authorities", people who "have no real influence". Niyazov considers that it would be more advantageous to seek out "those who are really capable of assisting with collaboration between the two countries". In his opinion, "western diplomats who come to Turkmenistan are inclined to take an interest in democracy here and advise us how to build it. However, they do not understand the republic's specific character, the level of its development or the customs of its people".

Local observers think that Niyazov's statement was prompted by yesterday's meeting organised by the US Embassy between the Senator and leaders of the republic's unregistered popular movement "Agzyberlik" together with representatives of the intelligentsia.

Cranston told IF [INTERFAX] after the one and a half hour talks (which had been conducted behind closed doors) had ended that he considered the most important steps towards developing relations between the two countries were to create a legal base for opposition parties in Turkmenistan to register and take part in free elections, and to set down the terms for attracting foreign investment into the country.

The Senator expressed the hope that Bill Clinton would win the forthcoming presidential elections. In his opinion, a Democrat triumph would not affect US policy with regard to the strengthening ties with Turkmenistan.

Central Asian Security System Not Favored

LD0909103192 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0000 GMT 9 Sep 92

[Text] Turkmenistan opposes the creation of a new system of collective security in Central Asia. This is how, according to the NEGA agency, Ashgabat reacted officially to the Kazakhstan initiative to hold a meeting in Alma-Ata on confidence measures in Asia. Apart from Turkmenistan, the leaders of Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkey, Iran, and Pakistan were also sent this proposal. The Turkmenistan side explained its refusal as due to the decision by the republic's leadership to conduct a policy of positive neutrality which views priority development in economic—not political—interstate links.

Azerbaijan

President Expresses Desire for 'Broader Powers'

OW0709224792 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1609 GMT 7 Sep 92

[From "Presidential Bulletin"—transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Broader powers for the president and further centralization of state authority would be quite welcome now that an undeclared war has been imposed on us, President Elchibey told the newspaper of the Azeri parliament (Milli-Mejlis). He noted, however, that the president's rights should be reviewed in strict accordance with the democratic norms. This means, said Elchibey, that the president's powers should be consolidated within the framework of a new constitution which should be adopted following a national referendum.

IF [INTERFAX] Note: Elchibey's nearest associate Isa Kamberov comes out for broadening the president's powers, too. He told a news conference recently that for the moment no state institution is more legitimate than presidency, because only Elchibey was elected by the nation from a number of candidates. No one can contest the results of those elections, said Kamberov.

Orders Customs Regulations, Border Control

OW0909023892 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1649 GMT 8 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] President Elchibey of Azerbaijan has issued orders to introduce customs regulations and full-scale border control along its entire border line. The Customs Committee of the Azerbaijanian republic has been advised to set up border guard and customs stations along the republic's border. Beginning from October 1, the Customs Committee of the Azerbaijanian Republic has been obliged to provide all the necessary customs declaration forms for the goods exported to foreign countries including the CIS.

Decree Forms Advisory Council

NC0709205392 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1700 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Text] President Abulfaz Elchibey's instructions for the establishment of an advisory council affiliated with the presidential adviser on interethnic relations is as follows:

1. A permanent advisory council on interethnic relations will be established which will be affiliated with the presidential adviser on interethnic relations and which will represent the interests of all the ethnic communities in the Republic, contribute toward the arrangement of interethnic relations, draw up recommendations and measures for the productive functioning of the state establishments and services affiliated with the president, and coordinate the work of the state administrative organs with the social organizations of the minority communities.

2. The advisory council will be made up of the representatives of minority communities and ethnic groups, including their cultural centers; leading officials of associations, societies, unions, and other social organizations; media personnel, intellectuals, cultural employees, and [word indistinct]; and experts, elderly representatives, and citizens who enjoy special privileges.

3. The attached rules and regulations of the advisory council are hereby approved.

[Signed] Abulfaz Elchibey, president of Azerbaijan

[Issued in] Baku

[Dated] 3 September 1992

Thatcher Visits, Signs Protocol, Oil Agreement

NC0809070392 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1700 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Text] Former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher arrived in Baku at the invitation of President Abulfaz Elchibey today. Thatcher will hold unofficial talks in Azerbaijan. Supreme Soviet Chairman Isa Kamberov, State Adviser Sabit Bagirov, and other officials met her at the airport.

President Elchibey received Thatcher at the presidential palace this evening, when they held private talks for 60 minutes. Later Thatcher met state and government officials and representatives of various social and political organizations. At 2000 the esteemed guest took part in the signing of a protocol between Azerbaijan and Britain in the Baku City Executive Authority building. Sabit Bagirov, state adviser on strategic programs, and John Brown, president of the British Petroleum Company, signed an agreement between the Azerbaijani Government and the British Petroleum Company, which provides for preparatory work to be carried out to assess oil reserves in [placenames indistinct].

Departure Statement

NC0809195592 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1700 GMT 8 Sep 92

[Text] In a statement before departing Baku today, former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher said: I am convinced that the inviolability of state borders and respect for the rights of minorities is the most important principle in settling ethnic disputes.

Thatcher's second day in Baku was very [word indistinct]. She visited the exhibition organized by a British firm and a Norwegian company in the morning. Addressing a seminary conference at the exhibition, she said that she hoped that Azerbaijan and Great Britain could establish multilateral cooperation. Thatcher said that she believed that the people of Azerbaijan will gain

from the joint exploitation of Azerbaijan's oil resources by local and foreign companies.

Thatcher also met representatives of the republic's intellectuals and toured sites of interest in Baku.

Azerbaijani Supreme Soviet Chairman Isa Kamberov, state adviser Sabit Bagirov, Britain's Ambassador to Azerbaijan Sir Brian Fall, and other officials saw Thatcher off at the airport.

Georgia

Shevardnadze Claims Violation of Abkhaz Cease-Fire

OW0809195692 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1911 GMT 8 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Georgian State Council Chairman Eduard Shevardnadze stated at a State Council session on Tuesday [8 September], at which the situation in Abkhazia was being discussed, that the agreements which had been reached on a ceasefire were being "grossly violated" by the Abkhazians. He said that shooting is continuing, and last night a Georgian armoured troop carrier with troops on board was blown up by a mine, resulting in 5 deaths and 10 casualties.

In connection with this, Shevardnadze pointed out that "the Abkhazian leadership obviously has no control over its own armed forces." He stressed that "the provocation is continuing with the aim of breaking up the Moscow Agreements and this spells disaster for the Abkhazians." In Shevardnadze's opinion, "all of this could lead to a new Caucasian war."

Shevardnadze said that Tuesday's planned negotiations between Abkhazia and Georgia "did not take place due to the non-appearance of the Abkhazians." He said that the absence of the commander of the Abkhazian militia, Vladimir Kakaliya, was particularly notable.

The Georgians, according to Shevardnadze, are doing all in their power to block the Avatkhar pass (Gudauta region) from which the continued exchange of mercenaries is taking place.

New Abkhaz Commander Named

OW0809193692 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1913 GMT 8 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Valdimir Arshba has been appointed to the post of Abkhazian Interior Troop Regiment Commander by a decree issued by Abkhazian Supreme Council Leader Vladislav Ardzinba. The previous commander, V. Kakaliya, has been appointed First Deputy Chairman of the Abkhazian Defence Council.

Meanwhile, as IF [INTERFAX] learned at the commandant's office in Gagra, at approximately 16:00 hours on Tuesday [8 September] the Abkhazians launched a massive scale attack on Georgian positions in the town's environs. The fighting is currently centered around the villages of Inpari and Kolchida. The Abkhazians, according to the commandant's office, are employing artillery and missiles. A few Georgian guardsmen have been wounded.

At the same time, Vladislav Ardzinba told IF in an interview that "the Moscow meeting failed to resolve the most important question of all, namely the withdrawal of Georgian troops from Abkhazian territory." The withdrawal of troops, in his opinion, is "the essential guarantee of peace in Abkhazia, because otherwise provocations and the renewal of fighting are always a possibility. [no end quote marks as received]

Sources close to the Russian delegation which will take part in the trilateral commission for control and inspection in Abkhazia announced that the delegation itself would arrive in Sukhumi from Sochi on Wednesday where its departure was delayed on Tuesday due to poor flying conditions.

Mountain Peoples To Withdraw Volunteers

LD0809171792 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1600 GMT 8 Sep 92

[Text] A leader of the Caucasus' Mountain Peoples has said it was decided today to pull all the armed detachments of volunteers out of Abkhazia. The first group of Chechens is already on the way home. Meanwhile, Aeroflot has announced that planes from Russian are still not flying to Groznyy airport because of the security threat caused by the situation there.

Armistice Observed in South Ossetia

LD0809202192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0835 GMT 8 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Shanayev]

[Excerpts] Vladikavkaz September 8 TASS—No shooting or local seats of armed confrontation were recorded in the zone of Tskhinvali during the past 24 hours. The Georgian and Ossetian sides are strictly observing the armistice terms. This is confirmed by reports from the South Ossetian Supreme Soviet and communiques of the North Ossetian Ministry for Security. The main tendency is gradually taking shape: Confrontation is yielding ground to peaceful creative labour. [passage omitted]

A regroupment is now underway within the mixed peace-keeping force due to the expiration of the contracts signed by soldiers and officers. The Georgian and Ossetian sides are replacing the departing servicemen

with reservists arriving in South Osetia. Russian paratroopers are leaving Tskhinvali. They will be replaced by motorised infantrymen.

"The strength of the mixed peace-keeping force in Tskhinvali area remains the same—1,500 men," ITAR-TASS was told by Major-General Stanislav Suyanov, representative of the command of the Joint Armed Forces of Russia, Georgia and Ossetia. They are divided into mobile teams, provided with armour and other weapons, which are ready to fly or go to any part of the conflict zone at any moment to suppress gun emplacements violating the armistice.

Estonia

Premier on Need for Baltic Monetary Policy

MK0809124792 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 5 Sep 92 p 4

[NEGA report under "Business Information" rubric: "Baltic States Must Have Unified Monetary Policy"]

[Text] "Economic cooperation in the Baltic States is possible only if a more or less unified monetary policy exists." This is how Estonian Prime Minister Tiit Vahi commented on the main problem confronting the governments of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania. "This means that Lithuania and Latvia must link their own national currency with internationally convertible currencies," he stated. "Right now, Latvia adjusts the rate of its ruble every week in relation to the Russian ruble." Linkage with freely convertible currency and with the ruble, in the minister's words, significantly hampers economic cooperation. He also noted that the principles of the imminent Lithuanian monetary reform are still unclear. Border and customs policy will also have to be defined more precisely at the upcoming 11 September meeting of Baltic prime ministers. "Our borders are closed. We are implementing customs control even as Lithuanian and Latvian borders with Russia remain virtually free. On the strength of this, we must also control our southern border with Latvia, as a no-visa system operates here in the Baltics. The establishment by Lithuania and Latvia of the same border system as in Estonia would significantly facilitate the activity of our border and customs services," Tiit Vahi said.

Latvia's Gorbunovs Reassures on Troop Withdrawal

LD0709205592 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 1200 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Text] According to the press service of the Estonian Supreme Council, Latvian Supreme Council Chairman Anatolijs Gorbunovs assured Arnold Ruutel today in a telephone conversation that he consistently stood for a swift and complete Russian troop withdrawal from Latvia. The press has recently published claims that Gorbunovs has expressed his readiness to discuss with Russia the possibility of retaining some military bases in Latvia.

Ruutel telephoned Gorbunovs this morning to discuss plans for the Baltic States Council. The Latvian debt for electricity supplied by Estonia was also discussed. Gorbunovs promised that the Latvian prime minister would address the Estonian proposal to apply unpaid debts toward purchasing fuel oil for Estonia from Russia.

Military Chief Says Russia Wants To Keep Bases

OW0509152492 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1428 GMT 5 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Russia intends to break the single front formed by the Baltic states in respect to the issue on withdrawal of the Russian forces from the region, believes the chief of the Estonian General Staff Colonel Ants Laaneots.

At the request of a "BF" [BALTFAX] correspondent he made his comments on an unofficial information received from the Russian Foreign Ministry saying that the Russian party may propose to withdraw its forces in 1993 at the forthcoming meeting of the Russian and Lithuanian leaders. Laaneots put forward a supposition that "an unexpected shift" in the Russian-Lithuanian negotiations may have a certain sense. According to Laaneots, Russia has its strategic interests in reserving its bases in Estonia and Latvia. There are not such sites in Lithuania.

Laaneots believes that "satisfying Lithuania's interests" Russia tries to weaken the pressure exerted by the international community in order to divert attention from Estonia and Latvia and to withhold its sites in these republics.

Parliament Chairman Seeks Winter Aid for Tallinn

OW0709065592 Moscow INTERFAX in English 0601 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] "Tallinn is having very serious problems and needs maximum possible assistance to be ready for the winter," Arnold Ruutel, chairman of the Estonian parliament, said at a press conference in the Estonian capital. He added that he would be trying to have the Iru heat and power plant provided with residual oil on the basis of a new scheme, with Latvia paying the money it owes the Estonian association Eesti Energia directly to the residual oil supplier, the Russian company Rosnefteprodukt.

Answering questions about law and order in Tallinn, Ruutel said the criminals who had come to Estonia illegally should be expelled from the country.

According to Tallinn's Mayor, Jaak Tamm, also taking part in the press conference, Ruutel has promised the city administration extensive assistance.

Presidential Elections Hold Ethnic Dimension

PM0809100792 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 4 Sep 92 First Edition p 6

[Report by Yuriy Stroganov report under the "Human Rights" rubric: "President for the Pure-Blooded, or the 'National Defense' Card Is Played"]

[Text] In civilized democratic states the right to vote or to be elected is denied to criminals and madmen... In Estonia more than one-third of the inhabitants find themselves in the role of outcasts, not being citizens of the republic. You find yourself wondering about the normality of society itself...

But one way or another the presidential election marathon is entering the home stretch, and the four candidates, headed by A. Ruutel, the current chairman of Supreme Soviet, are playing a difficult political game, the finale of which is scheduled for 20 September.

That the "national defense" card is being played in this game is especially obvious from A. Ruutel. Once, in the not-so-distant past, an adherent of socialist internationalism, he now does not even subject to criticism the fact that thousands of his countrymen of "foreign-speaking" origin are deprived of the right to express their opinion on this or that candidate.

Alas, "national defense" may perhaps not lead to victory. Maybe this is why A. Ruutel not so long ago warned of the probability of serious complications in relations with Russian-speaking northeast Estonia in the event of pressure from national radicals.

There are many warning signs. There is the growth of social tension in Narva and Sillamae, serious talk of a referendum to determine the status of Narva, and the so-called "roundtable" taking place in Narva with the participation of the professional center of the northeast of the republic, the Russian Democratic Movement, deputies of the Supreme Council and the Narva and Kohtla-Jarva City Councils, and other "foreign-speaking" organizations.

In effect they have united their positions on the basis of opposition to the discriminatory measures of the national radicals—and, probably, the state itself, executing the national radicals' will in the form of legislative acts placing obstacles in the road to citizenship for thousands of inhabitants of Estonia. So far the national radicals are achieving the opposite result, unifying people with positions that were only recently incompatible.

Whereas the "pure-blooded" will elect their own president, the "second-class" citizens prefer to create a sort of elective organ under the name of the "representative assembly" to represent their interests both inside the republic and in the interstate community. This is akin to a parliament of people deprived of citizenship. This is, in my opinion, an entirely natural course of events, forecast, incidentally, by the republic's sober citizens, including former Prime Minister E. Savisaar.

Somewhat encouraging is the fact that the reason of the Estonian people is possibly getting the better of their emotions. After all, a certain Doctor of Juridical Sciences Uno Ruusu, who advocated evicting all "occupiers" from the republic, did not manage to collect the necessary number of signatures—only 10,000—in order to be nominated as a candidate for the Estonian presidency...

But the national card is still being played, as the "credentials" of the other candidates suggest. Thus L. Parek represents the National Independence Party. R. Taageper is from the "People's Front" bloc, and L. Meri is the candidate for the so-called "patriots." A. Ruutel himself is from the "Safe House" block. In this company he seems the most moderate of politicians. Possibly his movement to the right is to be explained by the conditions of the election campaign, although the fact that he himself is a indigenous Estonian and is in the grip of the national idea should not be discounted. The fact that one or two of the extreme radicals fiercely oppose him is also very suggestive. Nevertheless, the majority of observers predict his success, and the popular BALTIYSKAYA GAZETA even considers that he will receive roughly twice as many votes as his nearest "pursuer"—L. Meri, the current ambassador to Finland.

Soon all will become clear, and these forecasts will be history. But Ruutel's forecast concerning the development of the situation on international relations will still remain. In many ways the situation will depend on how the man who becomes president will subsequently conduct the political game.

The tactics of "national defense" may create a stalemate in which a "state of foreign nationals" [inorodtsy] will appear within the nation state, with the ensuing sad consequences already well known to certain regions of the former Soviet Union. To stop this from happening it is necessary to to move from defense to dialogue to concord. But will a president in whom only the "pure-blooded" will have expressed confidence be able to do this?

Latvia

Russian Navy Commander Promises 1993 Departure

LD0809213792 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 1730 GMT 8 Sep 92

[Text] Admiral Vladimir Yegorov, commander of the Baltic Fleet of the Russian Navy, at a meeting on 8 September with Latvian Navy Commander Gaidis Zeibots; Eriks Tilgass, counsellor on defense issues to the Latvian minister of state; and representatives of the Russian Armed Forces withdrawal control office, announced that the Baltic Fleet is prepared to leave the territory of Latvia by the end of 1993. The question of the Liepaja and Bolderaja naval dockyards being transferred into Latvian jurisdiction will be settled in the near future.

Eriks Tilgass, counsellor to the Latvian minister of state, described the meeting with the admiral as constructive and businesslike. He also acknowledged that the outcome of the talks was a pleasant surprise because the Russian side's attitude on the issue of withdrawing the naval fleet had been negative up to this point. Vladimir Yegorov also announced his readiness to put the vacated premises at the Baltic naval garrison at the disposal of the Latvian Navy and noted the possibility of supplying the necessary (?equipment) for the Latvian Navy from the Baltic Fleet's naval depot.

Gorbunovs Denies Desire To Retain Military Bases

OW0709223892 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1802 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The head of the Latvian parliament, Anatolijs Gorbunovs, had a telephone conversation with his Estonian counterpart, Arnold Ruutel, September 7, in which he categorically denied the allegations circulated by the press that he is prepared to consider a possibility of preserving Russian military bases on the Latvian territory, a spokesman for the chairman of the Estonian Supreme Council informed Baltfax.

Mr Gorbunovs and Mr Ruutel also addressed the issues relating to further activities of the Council of Baltic States.

Mr Ruutel also posed the question regarding Latvia's reimbursement for electric power supplies from Estonia. The two leaders agreed that the Latvian prime minister will consider the Estonian proposal to reimburse some of its debt by diesel fuel supplied directly from Russia.

Troop Withdrawal Progress Pleases Interlocutors

PM0809150792 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Sep 92 Morning Edition p 1

[Report by Irina Litvinova: "Withdrawal of Russian Troops From Baltic Will Be Accelerated"]

[Text] Riga—"The Latvian delegation is satisfied that the the meeting with the Russian military took place. The upshot was a concrete, businesslike talk"—this was how Juris Dobelis, deputy chairman of the Latvian Republic Commission for Defense and Internal Affairs, described the conversation in the Russian Northwestern Group of Forces [NWGF] Staff.

The organizers of the meeting—the Russian military—also remain satisfied with the progress of negotiations. In order to give maximum publicity to the planned dialogue, they invited Latvian and Russian journalists into the hall where the issues were discussed. Lieutenant General Petr Ledyayev, deputy commander of the NWGF Troops, said that such meetings had been held earlier in Estonia and Lithuania. They achieved significant progress on solving problems connected with the withdrawal of Russian troops.

The Russian side will hand over nine military camps in Riga to Latvia by as early as the end of this year. Everything will be done so that they are maintained in complete order. The new administration for the withdrawal of troops has organized a 24-hour duty roster, and it will be possible to solve any issues which crop up promtly and efficiently. The Russian military noted in particular that the withdrawal of equipment is being delayed because of a shortage of railcars, licensing difficulties, or the ban on taking out this or that item of military property. After the handover of facilities the activities of commercial structures which concluded contracts with the military will be halted, if the Latvian side deems them illegal.

At the handover of facilities their value (in 1984 prices) will be entered in the special documents. Deputy Commander P. Ledyayev explained that this is being done so that Latvia and Russia may subsequently adopt decisions at an intergovernmental level on the settling of problems connected with property that is left behind.

The Latvian side raised the question of Russia paying the bills for kindergartens and schools attended by the children of Russian Army soldiers. It was announced that Moscow is ready to pay. True, adjustments are possible: The children's mothers work in the republic and pay taxes into the budget, and this cannot be discounted. At the moment a figure of 177 million rubles [R] (at R13,200 per child) for the education in the first half of the school year is being cited.

The Russian side asked that the question of the military being able to privatize their housing, which was built with USSR Ministry of Defense funds, be raised with the republic government. In this case, the Russian military believes, the withdrawal would be significantly accelerated, because, having sold their apartments in Latvia, officers could acquire new ones in Russia. As is well known, the Latvian side has so far objected to this approach.

The question of the unauthorized seizure of Russian military facilities by armed Latvian formations was also raised at the meeting. In the opinion of Juris Dobelis, meetings between the military structures of Latvia and Russia will help incidents to be avoided in future.

The Russian military leadership handed over to the Latvian side a list of more than 80 facilities which will be handed over by the end of the year. The withdrawal of Russian troops is clearly being accelerated.

Lithuania

Memorandum Explains Government's Economic Policy

LD0509221192 Vilnius Radio Vilnius International Service in Lithuanian 2100 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Text] The Lithuanian Government and IMF experts recently drew up a program to stabilize the Lithuanian economy. This program, called the memorandum of Lithuanian economic policy, will help to establish a free market in Lithuania's economy, among other things. Having submitted the memorandum, the Lithuanian Government hopes to obtain extensive financial assistance from the IMF, the World Bank, the European Reconstruction and Development Bank, and other international organizations.

Today the Lithuanian economic policy memorandum was presented to IMF representatives. This document is to be examined in the middle of October by the IMF Council of Directors. According to preliminary calculations, in successfully implementing the memorandum Lithuania can expect credits from the West totaling $287 million, at 7.5 percent annual interest. Credits are expected to be granted to Lithuania as early as this October.

The Lithuanian economic policy memorandum consists of three parts. After an introduction, it contains a review of Lithuania's economic situation at the beginning of this year and a one-year program for economic reform. The program deals with basic principles of finances, taxes, and social, banking, and foreign policies which should stabilize Lithuania's economy.

According to the memorandum, private business will be encouraged in Lithuania. The new economic program will attempt to restrict various negative phenomena in the state economy, (?reduce) inflation, and create conditions for the introduction of a national currency, the litas. According to the authors of the memorandum, a reserve of hard currency is to be accumulated in Lithuania. The memorandum also fixes a limit on Lithuania's debts abroad.

Meanwhile, in striving successfully to introduce the litas the Lithuanian Government will reduce subsidies and improve price policy. For this purpose the mechanism for social guarantees will be reorganized, with special attention being given to effectively controlling the budget and credits. After the introduction of the litas, the Lithuanian Government will try to ensure the strength of the national currency in settling accounts abroad. According to the memorandum, subsidies will be abolished with the introduction of the price policy. But prices of gas, heating, and electricity supplied to residents will initially be controlled by the state. As of the middle of 1993 the state will no longer interfere in these prices.

Beginning next year the Lithuanian Government plans to completely abolish controls on the prices of gasoline, coal, bricks, and timber. Agricultural subsidies are to be substantially reduced. In the second half of the year 1.2 billion rubles will be allocated from the state budget to agriculture.

The memorandum envisages a substantial reduction in inflation. While prices for consumer goods were predicted to increase by 75-100 percent in August-September this year, prices should increase by less than (?3) percent in the first quarter of next year.

On the whole, the basic trend of the Lithuanian Government's finance policy is to reduce the deficit in the state budget. As of this September, the wages of workers at state organizations are being frozen for several months. The wages will later increase, depending on inflation and income policy. Additional revenue will be obtained for the state budget in the second half of this year from the 18 percent value-added tax. The government is planning in the memorandum to give priority to measures that will better control budget expenditures and help introduce order in tax policy.

By the middle of 1993 we intend to completely abolish taxes paid by enterprises based on profit. All enterprises will then pay the same tax.

As far as the introduction of the litas is concerned, the Lithuanian Government believes that rubles, which are no longer in circulation, must be kept in the Bank of Lithuania until negotiations with Russia and other states in the ruble zone are concluded. The sides will have to agree during the negotiations that the rubles that Lithuania received since March 1990 have been purchased from funds in Lithuania's corresponding accounts in the Russian bank.

The Lithuanian Government plans to regulate foreign trade mostly with taxes, abolishing other restrictions where possible. As of 1 November 1992, the government plans to abolish all restrictions on the export of goods, except some energy resources and Lithuanian timber.

Officials Fired For Hampering Privatization

LD0709205892 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1426 GMT 7 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladas Burbulis]

[Text] Vilnius September 7 TASS—The Lithuanian Government announced on Monday [7 September] that the entire Privatisation Committee from the capital city of Vilnius was fired because of malpractice which hindered privatisation in Lithuania.

According to the government statute, Privatisation Committee employees caused indignation among the Lithuanian population by their blatant bribe taking and contempt for popular protests. Lithuania's Prosecutor's Office received orders to launch an investigation into the affair.

Minister Interviewed on Financial Situation

LD0809090492 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1400 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Excerpt] A meeting of the government was held at the Ministry of Finance today. There were 13 items on the agenda and most of them, of course, are on financial matters. And here is Madona Luckaite talking to some of the participants:

[Begin recording] [Luckaite] The second part of the government session has ended and here I am talking to Finance Minister Audrius Misevicius.

Esteemed minister, you have been talking about the Lithuania's financial matters and future prospects. So what are the future prospects for finance?

[Misevicius] Future prospects are not particularly good. First of all because the volume of production is falling, and therefore the budget revenue is automatically falling. A number of social security demands are met less adequately as a result of this than before.

On the other hand, we have some hope that while receiving assistance from abroad we are going to manage somehow. At the same time we are going to help ourselves as much as we can in the sense that we will attempt to set up and to somewhat exact the system of taxation,

so that it is more comprehensive and more in line with regard to working capital, so that it is not too much of a burden to industrialists and businessmen in order that they can produce a product which can then be distributed in the social sphere.

[Luckaite] Two decisions on agriculture have been adopted. What are they?

[Misevicius] The tax on profit and income is not applied to either legal or physical subjects who receive profit and income from agricultural productions. [passage omitted on taxation on dividends] [end recording]

Vice Premier on Financial Talks With Russia

OW0909032492 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1750 GMT 8 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The unofficial meeting in Kaliningrad last Sunday between representatives of the Lithuanian Government and Russia's vice president Aleksandr Shokhin was positive in the assessment of the Lithuanian vice premier, Bronislavas Lubys.

In the words of Mr Lubys, the participants of the meeting agreed that Russia would not create any obstacles to the transit of natural gas from Turkmenistan to Lithuania. As was reported earlier, beginning from August 29 Russia limited by 53% its gas supplies to Lithuania.

Mr Shokhin has promised to find out and, if possible, promote the solution of the mutual accounting issue. The Lithuanian representatives showed dissatisfaction over the policy pursued by the Russian Central Bank which is keeping nearly 10 million rubles belonging to various Lithuanian enterprises, and which cannot be used for accounting with Russian suppliers of raw materials and other resources.

Mr Lubys says, the parties have reached an important preliminary agreement regarding the hard currency assets amounting to $300 million in the former VNESHECONOMBANK of the USSR belonging to residents of Lithuania. According to Mr Lubys, Russia will return some of these assets. Formerly, the Lithuanian Government made many unsuccessful approaches to the Russian Government requesting that these assets be returned, but the Russian Government failed to produce any guarantees in this regard.

Mr Shokhin has pledged to make sure that in the next several months the assets belonging to natural persons with the total sums up to $7.3 million would be returned to them.

Harvest Progress, Yields Reported

LD0909044692 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1400 GMT 8 Sep 92

[Text] According to statistical department report, as of 7 September 82 percent of the sown area under crops and leguminous plants has been harvested at agricultural enterprises and companies. The department reports that at the moment 24.7 quintals per hectare are being thrashed.

We can draw the conclusion now that farmers are harvesting plots with lower crop yield, because on 31 August the department reported 25 quintals per hectare. By 7 September flax has been pulled from 47 percent of the total area sown under flax, while maize has been harvested from 26 percent of the sown area.

Reports for potatoes are rather sketchy, indicating that the yield is rather low. The department reports that potatoes have been harvested from 51 hectares; the potato digging season has not yet started.